

DAYTON PERFORMING ARTS ALLIANCE



KEITARO HARADA

Armed with intensity and depth, Keitaro Harada consistently provides riveting concerts and opera performances in Asia, the Americas, and Europe. As Music and Artistic Director of the Savannah Philharmonic since the 2020–21 season, Harada has transformed the orchestra and energized its audiences throughout the community with his imaginative programs and charismatic presence. In 2024, Harada was named Permanent Conductor of the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, Principal Guest Conductor and Artistic Partner for the Aichi Chamber Orchestra, and he begins a five-year tenure as Music and Artistic Director of the Dayton Philharmonic in the 2025–26 season. He has forged a close connection with the NHK Symphony Orchestra with whom he appears frequently and has recorded three albums. Harada's eclectic musical scope ranges from symphony, opera, and chamber music to pops, film scores, educational outreach, and multidisciplinary projects, all of which enrich his programming. Harada is a recipient of the 2023 Sir Georg Solti Conducting Award.

This season, Harada debuts with the Charleston and Utah Symphonies and returns to the North Carolina Symphony. In the 2024–25 season, Harada debuted with Adelaide Symphony, returned to Indianapolis Symphony, and made his subscription debut with Cincinnati Symphony. Additional highlights include engagements with the symphony orchestras of Houston, Seattle, NHK, Yomiuri Nippon, Osaka, Tokyo, Hawaii, Fort Worth, Indianapolis, Memphis, Louisiana, Charlotte, West Virginia, Tucson, Phoenix, and Virginia, as well as the Osaka Philharmonic, Kanagawa Philharmonic, Nagoya Philharmonic, Japan Philharmonic, New Japan Philharmonic, Tokyo Philharmonic, and Orquesta Filarmónica de Sonora in Mexico.

Well versed in the operatic canon, Harada was a Seiji Ozawa Fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center in 2010, where he delivered a critically acclaimed performance of Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos*. Since then, he has led performances of Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*, Bizet's *Carmen*, and Britten's *Turn of the Screw* at North Carolina Opera. In 2017, he led performances of Mazzoli's *Song from the Uproar* at Cincinnati Opera, followed by *Carmen* at Bulgaria's Sofia National Opera, subsequently conducting the production on a tour of Japan in 2018. In past seasons and as Associate Conductor of Arizona Opera, he conducted *Don Pasquale*, *La fille du régiment*, and *Tosca*.

In the 2022–23 season, he made his debut at Niki Kai Opera in Tokyo, leading performances of *Orphée aux enfers*. He returned to Cincinnati Opera to conduct a critically acclaimed *Madama Butterfly* as part of an all-Japanese creative team. In 2024, he debuted with Dayton Opera conducting *Aida* and led *La fanciulla del West* at North Carolina Opera and *La fille du régiment* at Nissay Theatre in Tokyo. In the 2025–26 season he returns to Dayton Opera for Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* in concert.

Harada was Associate Conductor for four years at the Cincinnati Symphony and Pops, where he regularly assisted with Music Director Louis Langrée and collaborated with James Conlon and Juanjo Mena at the orchestra's annual May Festival. He is a six-time recipient of The Solti Foundation U.S. Career Assistance Award, and in 2013, he was invited to the Bruno Walter National Conductor Preview. Harada has released eight albums with various orchestras. He studied with Lorin Maazel at Castleton Festival and Fabio Luisi at the Pacific Music Festival, where, at Valery Gergiev's invitation, he served on the festival's faculty in 2016, 2018, and 2021.

Keitaro Harada is represented by Arabella Arts.

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