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PENINSULA MUSIC FESTIVAL APPOINTS BERGMANN AS NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR

EPHRAIM, WI - In a statement issued December 9, 2022, by PMF Board Chair David Keen, “On behalf of the Peninsula Music Festival I’m excited to announce the appointment of Norwegian Maestro Rune Bergmann as PMF’s next Music Director. Bergmann will lead the Festival Orchestra’s 3-week Symphony Series every August where he first appeared as a guest conductor for two concerts last August. He has already begun to work on programming for this summer, so we can’t wait to see what he has in store for his Inaugural Series!”

“When I first arrived at the Peninsula Music Festival in August 2022, I was surprised not only by how beautiful the location was but also by how much it reminded me of my home in Norway. To now be assuming the role of Music Director, and to have the pleasure of working each summer with this collection of top-class musicians from around the United States, is really an honor. And it will be an adventure I am really looking forward to,” Bergmann said during a recent conversation.

“I am very pleased and thankful that the patience and diligence of our Search Committee over these past three years has resulted in finding a Music Director with such great energy and talent,” said Keen, “and under his leadership, I believe we can look forward to many more great musical performances from our remarkable ensemble of accomplished and committed musicians.”

Programming for the 71st Symphony Series August 1-19, 2023 will be announced as soon as possible, so reserve your seats and don’t miss out on this remarkable nine-concert Series celebrating the arrival of Maestro Bergmann to the PMF podium!

Norwegian conductor **Rune Bergmann** is currently Music Director of Canada’s Calgary Philharmonic, Artistic Director & Chief Conductor of Poland’s Szczecin Philharmonic, and Chief Conductor of Switzerland’s Argovia Philharmonic, positions he has held since the 2017/18, 2016/17, and 2020/21 seasons, respectively.

Guest engagements in the 2022/23 season bring Bergmann once again to the podiums of the Baltimore, North Carolina and Malaga Symphony Orchestras. He will also make his debut with the recently formed ADDA Simfonica in Spain.

Bergmann's recent guest engagements include concert weeks with the Baltimore, Colorado, Detroit, Edmonton, Houston, New Jersey, Pacific and Utah Symphony Orchestras in North America, and the Bergen Philharmonic, Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana, Orquesta Sinfonica Portuguesa, Norwegian National Opera Orchestra, Orquesta de Valencia, Staatskapelle Halle, Wrocław Philharmonic, and the Risør Festival in Europe, to name a few. Bergmann has also led performances of *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and *La Traviata* at the Norwegian National Opera, and he made his US operatic debut in Yale Opera's production of Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, as staged by Claudia Solti, while previous guest engagements have led him to such auspices as the Oslo Philharmonic, New Mexico Philharmonic, Münchner Symphoniker, Mainfranken Theater Würzburg, Philharmonie Südwestfalen, as well as the symphony orchestras of Malmö, Helsingborg, Kristiansand, Stavanger, Trondheim, Karlskrona, and Odense.

2018 saw the release of Bergmann's first recording with the Szczecin Philharmonic, which featured the "Resurrection" Symphony in E-minor by Mieczysław Karłowicz, a piece which has since become a major focus of Bergmann's repertoire. He has also released recordings with the Argovia Philharmonic, including Ravel's G-Major Piano Concerto and Mozart's Bb-Major Bassoon concerto.

Earlier in his career, Rune Bergmann served as First Kapellmeister and deputy-Music Director of the Theater Augsburg, where he led performances of numerous operas, including such titles as *La Traviata*, *Der fliegende Holländer*, and *Die Fledermaus*. He has also served as Principal Guest Conductor of the Kaunas City Symphony, and has been Artistic Director of Norway's innovative Fjord Cadenza Festival since its inception in 2010.

For Symphony Series ticket reservations call PMF's Box Office at (920) 854-4060,
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Rune Bergmann