



ERKKI LASONPALO

A decade after he was invited to study with the Finnish conducting guru Jorma Panula, Erkki Lasonpalo is making a name for himself as a conductor who combines fluent technique with natural communicative spirit. After tutoring from Panula, Erkki continued his studies at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki with Leif Segerstam, where he was awarded a Wegelius Foundation grant and graduated with the highest honours.

Since 2012, Erkki has conducted most of the major orchestras in Finland including the Helsinki, Tampere and Turku Philharmonic Orchestras and the Lahti, Oulu and Kuopio Symphony Orchestras. He has also been engaged by the City Orchestras of Lappeenranta, Vaasa, Pori, Jyväskylä and Joensuu as well as the Tapiola Sinfonietta and the Lapland Chamber Orchestra. Erkki has augmented his growing experience in opera by working with the orchestra of the Finnish National Opera and Ballet and with Oulu Opera, Savonlinna Opera Festival and Sakari Oramo's West Coast Kokkola Opera Company. Outside Finland, Erkki recently made a successful debut with the Iceland Symphony Orchestra in Reykjavik.

Erkki is currently Artistic Director of the Heinävesi Music Festival, a post he has held since 2014. Since 2016 has been Artistic Director of the Kemi City orchestra, and since 2017 he has held the position of Artistic Partner of the Mikkeli City Orchestra. He is also the artistic director of the Helsinki Sinfonietta.

Like many of the most distinguished Finnish conductors working globally, Erkki laid the foundations of his musicianship as a professional instrumentalist. He studied violin at the Sibelius Academy and remains a member of the prize-winning Postiglione String Quartet. He signed to Nordic Artists Management in 2017.