

SZEGED SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



The city of Szeged's orchestra, a cultural jewel of the Southern-Alföld, dates back to the 18th century. It was formally established as the Szeged Symphony Orchestra in 1969 by the legendary principal conductor and composer Viktor Vaszy. He created a standard of opera to rival the Hungarian State Opera in Budapest, and further developed activities on the concert podium in Hungary and abroad.

The Szeged Symphony Orchestra supports Hungary's second largest opera house, the National Theatre of Szeged. Tamás Pál took over as Director & Principal Conductor in 1975, being succeeded by Géza Oberfrank (1983-1989) and then resuming the post until 1991. His successor was Ervin Acél until 1999, when he was succeeded by Sándor Gyüdi, who since 2008 has been Artistic Director & Principal Conductor. Gábor Baross has been the orchestra's manager since July 2008.

Aside from leading conductors there have also been remarkable visiting artists on the conductor's podium, and leading soloists, both international and Hungarian, are regularly invited. The orchestra has travelled in most of Europe and recent tours have taken them to Taiwan, Singapore and Brazil. The Szeged Symphony Orchestra's recordings are issued by Hungaroton as well as by Italian, Spanish, German, Danish, Belgian, British and American companies.

