



# GRIGOR PALIKAROV



Grigor Palikarov was born in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, in 1971.

After graduating from the Dobrin Petkov Music School in Plovdiv, he obtained a master's degree from the National Music Academy "Prof. P. Vladigerov" in Sofia in Choral and Orchestral Conducting, Composition, Piano. Appointed director of the Sofia National Opera and Ballet in 2000, he remained there for nearly 20 years as conductor; his current repertoire includes more than 60 pieces including opera and ballet.

He is currently Professor and Doctor at the National Music Academy in Sofia and has been Artistic Director of the Symphony orchestra - Pazardzhik since 2005. Maestro Palikarov is a regular guest conductor of orchestras and opera companies throughout Bulgaria, such as the Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra, the Bulgarian National Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Classic FM Radio Orchestra (of which he has been the permanent conductor since the 2008/2009 season), the State Opera Orchestras of Plovdiv, Varna and Burgas, among others. Palikarov has also built a career as an international guest conductor, regularly conducting orchestras in Italy, Poland, Spain, Slovenia, and Mexico, Taiwan, Netherlands, Japan, Korea, Germany, Austria, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, USA, Russia, Ukraine, Romania, etc.

He has conducted the orchestra of the Ljubljana National Opera and Ballet, the Romanian National Radio Symphony Orchestra-the Philharmonic Orchestras of Bucharest, Brasov and Sibiu in Romania, the Taipei Century Symphony Orchestra (Taiwan), the Opera Circle Cleveland, the Krasnoyarsk State Opera and Ballet (Russia), the Janáček Philharmonic Orchestra (Czech Republic), the Częstochowa and Warmia-Mazuri Philharmonic Orchestras (Poland), the San Remo Symphony Orchestra, the Bari Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra del FVG and the Orchestra Magna Grecia (Italy), the National Orchestra and Chorus of Uruguay (SODRE), the Dnipro Philharmonic, the Yucatán Symphony Orchestra, the Monterrey Symphony Orchestra, and the Thessaloniki Symphony Orchestra, among many others.

In 2014, Palikarov conducted two concerts at the Europa Kulturtage Festival at the Alte Oper in Frankfurt, Germany His conducting activities are complemented by his composing activities. Some of his pieces have been guest performed at festivals and recorded. He has received the "Crystal Lyre" Annual Music Award four times and in 2021 a "Golden Lyre" Award for his contribution to Bulgarian musical art and on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; a "Golden Quill" award in 2009; and the special "Emil Tchakarov" award in 2019. He has also served two terms as president of the Bulgarian section of "Mensa," an international organization of people with high IQs.