Jānis Liepiņš

From 2019 to 2026, Jānis Liepiņš served as the First Kapellmeister of the National Theatre Mannheim, and since 2023, he has also held the position of Deputy Chief Conductor. From 2014 to 2019, he was a conductor at the Latvian National Opera and Ballet, and from 2006 to 2018, he worked with the youth choir "Kamēr...", serving as its artistic director and chief conductor for the final six years of his tenure.

In recent seasons, Liepiņš has been the musical director for new productions of *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Der Schmied von Gent*, *Die Csárdásfürstin*, *Die Zauberflöte*, and *Madama Butterfly* at the National Theatre Mannheim. He has also regularly appeared as a guest conductor at the Latvian National Opera, conducting performances of *Carmen*, *Faust*, *La Traviata*, and *Tosca*.

Among Liepiņš's most notable past productions in Mannheim are *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *Don Giovanni*, *Die Fledermaus*, *La Forza del Destino*, *Les Huguenots*, excerpts from Wagner's cycle *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, *Don Pasquale*, *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, *Orpheus in der Unterwelt*, as well as *Il Trovatore*, *Norma*, *Hänsel und Gretel*, and *Così fan tutte*.

As a guest conductor, Liepiņš has performed at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein in Düsseldorf, Theater Chemnitz, Staatstheater Kassel, and Oldenburgisches Staatstheater. He has collaborated with the Württemberg Philharmonic Orchestra, the Orquesta Clásica Santa Cecilia in Madrid, the Russian National Orchestra, the Zielona Góra Philharmonic Orchestra in Poland, and the Philharmonie de Paris Youth Orchestra, while regularly working with all professional orchestras in Latvia.

At the Latvian National Opera, he has conducted a wide repertoire, including *Carmen*, *Eugene Onegin*, *The Rake's Progress*, *Il Trovatore*, *Le Villi*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *La Rondine*, *Dialogues des Carmélites*, *The Rose of Turaida*, and the operetta *Die Fledermaus*. He has also conducted several ballets, including *Raymonda*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Scheherazade and Her Tales*, and *La Bayadère*. He made his Wagnerian debut in Riga with the opera *Der fliegende Holländer* (*The Flying Dutchman*).

Early in his career, he assisted Daniel Oren in a concert performance of Verdi's opera *Ernani* at the Latvian National Opera, as well as Alexander Vedernikov in a new production of *The Queen of Spades* at the Savonlinna Opera Festival.

For his artistic achievements, he received the Grand Music Award as the Young Artist of the Year (2013), as well as the Annual Culture Award. Liepiņš holds a bachelor's degree in choral and orchestral conducting from the Latvian Academy of Music. He studied conducting at the Berlin University of the Arts in the class of Professor Lutz Köhler and further developed his skills in masterclasses with Professor Colin Metters.