

**Orchestre philharmonique de Strasbourg announces its
2024/25 Season, as Warner Classics releases
Shokhakimov's 2nd album of Prokofiev's *Romeo & Juliette* Suites No. 1 & 2 and 1st Symphony Classical**

***"Aziz Shokhakimov has been creating a succession of miracles in
Strasbourg."***

Classical Explorer

***"The haunting conducting of Aziz Shokhakimov could be described as
almost sensational."***

Online Merker



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**[Prokofiev album: Symphony No.1 and Romeo & Juliette Suites 1 & 2](#)
[Orchestre philharmonique de Strasbourg website](#)**

Orchestre philharmonique de Strasbourg (OPS) celebrates its **4th season** with **Uzbek Music Director Aziz Shokhakimov**, who is quickly gathering critical acclaim in both the symphonic and operatic repertoire – from Wagner to Prokofiev, Mahler to Bizet. Next season's symphonic highlights will include several showstoppers: Rimsky Korsakov's *Scheherazade*, Mahler Symphony No. 2, Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* and Ravel's *Bolero*.

Warner Classics just released its 2nd album with Shokhakimov and the OPS: Prokofiev's iconic *Romeo & Juliet Suites* 1 & 2 and Symphony No. 1 *Classical* on **7 June**. Later in **June**, they record their 3rd album of Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloe Suite* for release the following year.

"Nowhere was character more in evidence than in the Gavotte (the rustic wind of the Trio piping away, trilling in miraculous unison, with some beautifully witty bassoon anacruses). And how



the finale chattered – music to an imaginary (cartoon) film scene.”
Seen and Heard: Prokofiev’s Classical Symphony

Following the launch of the season with Holst’s *The Planets*, Shokhakimov presents a programme of Prokofiev Symphony No.5 and Ravel’s *Bolero* and Piano Concerto in G major with **Bertrand Chamayou** on **4 October**. Following a thrilling Mahler 3rd Symphony last year in Paris, the OPS returns with Shokhakimov to the Philharmonie for a programme Prokofiev’s 5th Symphony and Khachaturian’s Violin Concerto performed by **Nemanja Radulovic** on **26 November**.

This year’s Christmas concert on **16 December** includes Rimsky-Korsakov’s *Scheherazade* and Saint-Saens’ Christmas Oratorio with soprano **Fanny Soyer**, mezzo-soprano **Floriane Hasler**, alto **Adèle Charvet**, tenor **François Rougier** and baritone **Jean-Christophe Lanièce**.

On **25 April** in their programme of Stravinsky’s Rite of Spring and Debussy’s *Printemps*, Jan Lisiecki joins the OPS for Mozart’s Piano Concert No.22.

Shokhakimov concludes the season on **22 and 23 May** with Mahler 2 with soloists soprano **Valentina Farcas** and mezzo-soprano **Anna Kissjudit**, who performed in last year’s Mahler Symphony No.3.



"Shokhakinov and the Strasbourg Philharmonic alternate their symphonic concerts with their work at the Opera National du Rhin or Opera d'Europe, an appropriate appellation for the city that wants to be neither exclusively French nor exclusively German, but rather essentially inclusive of everything."

Mundo Clasico – Mahler Symphony No. 3 at Paris Philharmonie

"Shokhakimov is a dynamic, flamboyant Carmen conductor, revelling in Bizet’s colourful scoring and unforgettable tunes, in a performance entirely devoid of "opera-house" routine."

Operalogue

Also in **May**, veteran conductor John Nelson is scheduled to return to Strasbourg to record Berlioz’s *L’Enfance du Christ* to complete his Berlioz cycle, which have been met with so many awards.

Orchestre philharmonique de Strasbourg can also be heard at **Opéra national du Rhin** in the productions of George Benjamin’s *Picture a day like this*, Tchaikovsky’s *The Nutcracker*, Offenbach’s *The Tales of Hoffmann*, and Sondheim’s *Sweeney Todd*.

Selected Season Listings

Full listings [here](#)

Thursday 5 September, 20:00

Palais de la Musique et des Congrès,
Strasbourg

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky *Piano Concerto No. 1 in B flat major*
Gustav Holst *The Planets*

Aziz Shokhakimov conductor
Behzod Abduraimov piano
Luciano Bibiloni choir director

Friday 4 October, 20:00

Palais de la Musique et des Congrès,
Strasbourg

Prokofiev *Symphony n°5*
Ravel *Piano concerto in G major*
Ravel *Bolero*

Bertrand Chamayou Piano
Aziz Shokhakimov Conductor

Tuesday 26 November, 20:00

Philharmonie de Paris

Khatchatourian *Violin Concerto*
Prokofiev *Symphony n°5*

Nemanja Radulović Violin
Aziz Shokhakimov Conductor

Wednesday 18 December, 20:00

Thursday 19 December, 20:00

Palais de la Musique et des Congrès,
Strasbourg

Concert de Noël (recorded for Arte)

Saint-Saëns Oratorio de Noël
Rimski-Korsakov *Shéhérazade*

Fanny Soyér Soprano
Floriane Hasler Mezzo-soprano
Adèle Charvet Alto

François Rougier Ténor
Jean-Christophe Lanièce Baritone

Choeur de l'Opéra National du Rhin

Hendrik Haas Choirmaster
Aziz Shokhakimov Conductor

Tuesday 31 December, 20:00

Wednesday 1 January, 17:00

Palais de la Musique et des Congrès,
Strasbourg

Concerts de la Saint Sylvestre et du Nouvel An

A. Adam *O Holy night*
H. Martin *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*
J. Pierpont *Jingle Bells*
Gershwin *Catfish Row*
Handel *Alléluia du Messie*

Choeur Gospel Experience
Grand Choeur du Gospel Philharmonic Experience
Pascal Horecka Conductor

Friday 14 February, 20:00

Saturday 15 February, 20:00

Sunday 16 February, 15:00

Rhine State Opera

Peer Gynt

Aziz Shokhakimov conductor
Opera Studio of the Opéra national du Rhin Lyric artists
Choir of the Opéra national du Rhin
Hendrik Haas choir director
Higher school of dramatic art of the Théâtre National de Strasbourg

Friday 25 April

Palais de la Musique et des Congrès,
Strasbourg

Debussy (orchestration H. Büsser)
Printemps

Mozart Piano n°22

Stravinsky *Le Sacre du printemps*

Jan Lisiecki Piano

Aziz Shokhakimov Conductor

Thursday 22 May, 20:00

Friday 23 May, 20:00 Palais de la
Musique et des Congrès, Strasbourg

Mahler *Symphony n°2*

Valentina Farcas Soprano

Anna Kissjudit Mezzo

Aziz Shokhakimov Conductor

**Chœur philharmonique de
Strasbourg Chœur de l'Opéra
National du Rhin**

Hendrik Haas Choirmaster

**Chœur philharmonique de
Strasbourg**

Catherine Bolzinger Choirmaster

Aziz Shokhakimov Conductor

Orchestre philharmonique de Strasbourg

The Orchestre philharmonique de Strasbourg, founded in 1855, is based in Strasbourg's Palais de la musique et des congrès, and tours in France and internationally. The OPS ranks as one of the major orchestras in France and was awarded the label of "National Orchestra" in 1994. The Orchestra is also one of the two permanent orchestras of the Opéra national du Rhin. With 110 permanent musicians perpetuating its dual French/German tradition, the Orchestra is engaged in an ambitious project centred on symphonic music.

In 2017, the Orchestra embarked on a landmark Berlioz recording cycle with conductor John Nelson, recorded for Warners Erato, with the first recording in the series, *Les Troyens*, awarded Gramophone Magazine's 2018 Recording of the Year. Further notable recent releases include *BariTénor* with Michael Spyres (September 2021).

The Orchestra contributes to Strasbourg's outreach with regular performances in landmark venues throughout France and Europe including the Philharmonie de Paris, Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg, KKL in Lucerne, Gasteig in Munich, Musikverein in Vienna, etc. It has resumed its grand international tours which have already taken the Orchestra to Japan, Brazil and Argentina. In June 2017, it gave a series of concerts in South Korea, which were so successful that the Orchestra was immediately invited to come back for another season. The Orchestra's exciting new Music and Artistic Director Aziz Shokhakimov took up the position in September 2021 for an initial contract of three seasons, succeeding Marko Letonja.

<https://philharmonique.strasbourg.eu/>

Aziz Shokhakimov

Aziz Shokhakov was born in Uzbekistan and entered a music school for exceptionally gifted children at the age of six, where he studied violin, viola and orchestra conducting with Vladimir Neymer. At the age of thirteen, he made his debut as a conductor with the National Symphony Orchestra of Uzbekistan. The following year, he conducted his first opera – Bizet's Carmen – at the Uzbekistan National Opera.

Shokhakov is 35, and won the Gustav Mahler Conducting Competition in Bamberg aged just 21. Since then, he has conducted distinguished orchestras such as Staatskapelle Dresden, Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, SWR Sinfonieorchester, HRSinfonieorchester, Deutsches Sinfonieorchester Berlin, London Philharmonic Orchestra and the Oregon, Pacific and Houston Symphony orchestras.

He is also Artistic Director to the Tekfen Philharmonic Orchestra, and has links to the Salzburg Festival since winning the Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award in August 2016.

Shokhakov took up the position of Music and Artistic Director of the Orchestre philharmonique de Strasbourg in September 2021 for an initial contract of three seasons.

<http://shokhakov.com/>

For more information on any of the above, please contact:

Nicky Thomas Media

9-12 The Stableyard, Broomgrove Rd, London SW9 9TL

+44 (0)20 3714 7594 | +44 (0)7768 566 530

info@nickythomasmedia.com

www.nickythomasmedia.com