

## Pressemitteilung

Zürcher Hochschule der Künste (ZHdK)

Caroline Süess

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## Christoph-Mathias Mueller appointed new lecturer in orchestral conducting at ZHdK

**The University Board has appointed Christoph-Mathias Mueller as a lecturer in orchestral conducting. He will assume his position on 1 August 2022 and will spend one year teaching alongside the current incumbent, Johannes Schlaefli. As of 1 August 2023, Müller will become the sole director of the conducting programme.**

On the recommendation of its search committee, the University Board of ZHdK has appointed Christoph-Mathias Mueller as a lecturer in orchestral conducting. He will assume his position on 1 August 2022. Christoph-Mathias Mueller will succeed Johannes Schlaefli, who has successfully led the conducting programme at ZHdK since 2009 and will retire in August 2023.

Christoph-Mathias Mueller studied the violin in Basel and was awarded his Master of Music at the University of Cincinnati. He has many years of experience as the chief conductor and general music director of renowned orchestras. He has won prestigious ECHO Klassik and OPUS Klassik awards and has been the Artistic Director of the Murten Classics Festival since 2021. In addition to his professional and didactic expertise, Mueller is also committed to the "Conductors Studio ZHdK" that has helped numerous young conductors to make a successful start in their profession.

### Conductors Studio ZHdK

ZHdK's conducting programme enjoys an exceptional international reputation. Many ZHdK students and alumni – including a striking number of women – have been extremely successful in this highly competitive market. Johannes Schlaefli and the "Conductors Studio ZHdK" are behind the conducting expertise of ZHdK. Schlaefli set up the Studio and has continuously optimised it over the years. Its learning culture promotes an intensive dialogue among a wide variety of students through curricular activities and different learning formats. The "Conductors Studio ZHdK" trains eight to ten Bachelor and Master students and is notable for its equitable gender balance. The students enjoy tuition on an individual, class and ensemble basis, and there are also courses and concerts with professional orchestras in other countries. They conduct a wide variety of orchestras as well as engaging in collaborations with ensemble, orchestra and opera projects within ZHdK.

A selection of conducting alumni and their current principal positions:

Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla, Chief Conductor of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra  
Philippe Bach, General Music Director in Meiningen  
Corinna Niemeyer, Directrice Artistique and Chief Conductor of the Orchestre de Chambre du Luxembourg  
Patrick Lange, General Music Director of the Hessisches Staatstheater Wiesbaden  
Johanna Malangré, Chief Conductor of the Orchestre de Picardie  
Leo McFall, Chief Conductor of the Symphonieorchester Vorarlberg

Zoi Tsokanou, Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Thessaloniki State Orchestra  
Kerem Hasan, Chief Conductor of the Tiroler Symphonieorchester Innsbruck  
Delyana Lazarova, 1st Prize at the Siemens Hallé International Conductors Competition and assistant at the Hallé Orchestra in Manchester  
Chin-Chao Lin, General Music Director of the Regensburg Theatre  
Holly Hyun Choe, Assistant Conductor of the Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra  
Dominic Limburg, Kapellmeister at the Deutsche Oper Berlin  
Katharina Wincor, Assistant at the Dallas Symphony Orchestra  
Johannes Zahn, Kapellmeister at the Staatstheater Darmstadt

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Will be teaching together for one year: Christoph-Mathias Mueller (left) will succeed Prof. Johannes Schlaefli from August 2022. Photograph: Johannes Dietschi © ZHdK