

MARTIN FRÖST ANNOUNCED AS NEW CHIEF CONDUCTOR OF THE SWEDISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, SUCCESSOR TO THOMAS DAUSGAARD, NAMED CONDUCTOR LAUREATE

ÖREBRO, SWEDEN - 15 May 2017: The Swedish Chamber Orchestra is delighted to announce the appointment of Martin Fröst as its new Chief Conductor, commencing from the 2019/20 season. The three-year contract marks a new chapter in Fröst's musical life, who in recent years has been increasingly active as a conductor, whilst continuing to perform and push boundaries as a clarinettist. Fröst follows in the footsteps of Thomas Dausgaard who has been the orchestra's Chief Conductor since 1997 and who will now embark upon a new phase in his relationship with the SCO as its Conductor Laureate.



photo credit: Nikolaj Lund

On being appointed, **Martin Fröst** said:

"The Swedish Chamber Orchestra is one of Scandinavia's leading orchestras; their passion, dedication and creativity is an inspiration. I can't wait to join the journey and have the chance to contribute to their wonderful reputation both nationally and internationally and have the opportunity to develop a new framework and vision for the orchestra, together with the musicians. I have tried to open new doors into the future and this really gives me a chance to take another step in a new direction. It really is an honour to be joining this wonderful musical family and I am very pleased that Thomas Dausgaard will continue as Conductor Laureate."

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Commenting on his new role, Thomas Dausgaard said:

"What an exciting ride it has been! With the orchestra at the height of its powers it feels like a good moment for me to explore new horizons while still keeping in touch with this fantastic group of musicians. I am deeply grateful to everyone in the orchestra and the organisation for the wonderful and stimulating adventure we have enjoyed together. It has a special place in my heart. While I am looking forward to inspiring projects ahead in the role of Conductor Laureate, I am very happy to warmly welcome my musical friend, Martin Fröst, as my successor."

The Swedish Chamber Orchestra's Artistic Manager, Gregor Zubicky, commented:

"I am very excited that we are beginning a new chapter of our story with Martin Fröst. A chamber orchestra is very much like a family and we have a long-standing relationship with Martin that has encompassed concerts in Örebro, recording and touring. The last project we did together was a ground-breaking performance for the Nobel Foundation and, with Martin in the driving seat, we can be sure that the future is going to be exhilarating and filled with energy and storytelling."

"The Swedish Chamber Orchestra has had a wonderful journey with Thomas Dausgaard, who joined the orchestra just two years after it was founded as a new ensemble with major aspirations. Under Thomas' inspired leadership those dreams of success have become a reality, with invitations to perform at the leading venues and festivals around the world and a legacy of some 30 acclaimed recordings."

"So not only am I delighted that Martin will be joining us but also that Thomas will continue his relationship with the orchestra in his new role as Conductor Laureate."