



Hanoverian Ambassadors

NDR Radiophilharmonie Hannover makes a welcome return to the UK this autumn for a five-concert tour with Chief Conductor, Stanislav Kochanovsky

Tour itinerary comprises dates in Manchester, Birmingham, Nottingham, London and Basingstoke (Monday 12 to Friday 16 October)

Ingrid Fliter and Nikolai Lugansky join as soloists respectively in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4 and Rachmaninov's youthful Piano Concerto No.1

'The NDR Radiophilharmonie is itself a fine ensemble, excellent in all departments and with a particularly impressive, firm and even-toned brass section,' *Seen and Heard International*, review of BBC Proms concert, 14 September 2019.

Beethoven Night at the BBC Proms provided the perfect platform for the NDR Radiophilharmonie Hannover's UK debut in 2019. The orchestra, based in Hannover, the capital city of Lower Saxony, is set to return to Britain this autumn for a five-concert tour under the direction of its Chief Conductor, Stanislav Kochanovsky. They will be joined by pianists Ingrid Fliter and Nikolai Lugansky, soloists respectively in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4 and Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 1. Maestro Kochanovsky has chosen to pair the concertos with Brahms's Symphonies No. 2 and No. 4, with programmes in Manchester and Birmingham opening with Beethoven's *Egmont Overture*, and those in Nottingham, London and Basingstoke with Prokofiev's *Classical Symphony*.

The tour opens on Monday 12 October at Bridgewater Hall in Manchester before continuing to Symphony Hall Birmingham on 13 October, with Ingrid Fliter as soloist for both concerts. Nikolai Lugansky will join the touring party for performances at the Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham (14 October), London's Cadogan Hall (15 October) and The Anvil, Basingstoke (16 October). The partnership between Stanislav Kochanovsky and the NDR Radiophilharmonie Hannover has already drawn high praise from UK critics, with *Gramophone* selecting their debut album of works by Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov and Tcherapnin as one of its prestigious Editor's Choice recordings in May 2025.

"It's a great pleasure as well as a certain responsibility to come to Britain with my dear colleagues," says Stanislav Kochanovsky. "I am proud of the results of our creative work together and look forward to sharing them with our audiences on tour. The mix of Austro-German and Russian repertoire on this tour sums up the focus of our cooperation. We've joined forces and woven together our different musical traditions and cultural backgrounds through intensive work on projects like our Tchaikovsky recordings and recent Schumann-Tchaikovsky Festival. Our British audience will witness the orchestra's wonderful signature German sound as well as the shared vision we've created in the Russian repertoire."

“We’re honoured to have fantastic soloists with us on this autumn’s tour,” notes Stanislav Kochanovsky. “Both Ingrid and Nikolai are incredible musicians. This will be my first time performing with Ingrid on stage. I am very excited about making music with her. I have performed often with Nikolai. For me he is one of the most reliable partners you could ever wish for on stage: technically brilliant and aristocratically elegant.”

The digital-only releases of Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No.1 ‘*Winter Daydreams*’ (28 August) and *The Snow Maiden* (9 October) are set to further underline the strengths of Kochanovsky’s work with the NDR Radiophilharmonie ahead of their UK performances. Collaborating with soloists Bella Adamova and Sergey Radchenko as well as the Capella St. Crucis Hannover, *The Snow Maiden* was recorded live in February 2026 during the opening concert of the orchestra’s Schumann-Tchaikovsky Festival and follows shortly after their release of Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 1 ‘*Winter Daydreams*’.

Matthias Ilkenhans, Manager of the NDR Radiophilharmonie, stresses the importance of this year’s UK tour and the opportunity it offers to introduce British audiences to the flourishing creative alliance between Stanislav Kochanovsky and his Hannover band. “The orchestra has undergone a process of renewal since we last visited England and is performing at a new artistic level,” he says. “We have celebrated our 75th anniversary in style this season; amongst other things, we commissioned three major works and undertook some fantastic projects with our Artist in Residence, Matthias Goerne. It feels good and right to present ourselves to UK audiences again at this moment.”

The NDR Radiophilharmonie Hannover, which was formed in May 1950 as the Rundfunkorchester in Hannover, presents well over 100 concerts a year, including those given as part of its regular series at the NDR Konzerthaus in Hannover, as a guest at major German festivals, and on tour at home and abroad. The orchestra has built an impressive discography, which embraces everything from rarities by Atterberg, Graener and Röntgen to mainstream works by Brahms, Mozart and Prokofiev and reflects the striking breadth of the orchestra’s repertoire. In 2014 Hannover was appointed a UNESCO City of Music, the title an acknowledgement of the city’s vibrant music scene and cultural policy which offers exceptional conditions for music and artistry to thrive. The Hanoverian orchestra comes to the UK having celebrated its 75th anniversary across the 2025-26 season.

“Here in Hannover, we are naturally proud of our historic, albeit somewhat fortuitous, connection to Great Britain,” observes Matthias Ilkenhans, referring to connections forged after the accession of George I, ruler of the Electorate of Hanover, to the throne of Great Britain and Ireland in 1714. “In other respects, such as music, we still consider our home city to be a well-kept secret. Cities such as Munich and Berlin are regarded worldwide as centres of high culture. The rich and vibrant musical life of the city of Hannover receives far too little recognition; through international networking with the other UNESCO Cities of Music and tours, such as our upcoming one to England, we aim to change that.”

Notes for Editors

NDR Radiophilharmonie Hannover

As an innovative symphony orchestra that combines high artistic quality with exceptional variety in its programme, the NDR Radiophilharmonie enjoys national and international renown. Well-versed in the fields of classical and romantic symphonic repertoire as well as early music and opera, the NDR Radiophilharmonie also succeeds in addressing a broad audience with new concert ideas, attracting new listeners, and setting contemporary accents in cultural life. Its *Discover Music!* education programme offers children and young people specially designed concerts as well as a wide range of music education projects and hands-

on activities. In total, the NDR Radiophilharmonie gives around 100 concerts each season, almost all of which are broadcast on Norddeutscher Rundfunk radio and are available online for listeners worldwide.

Founded in 1950, with Hannover's NDR Konzerthaus as its home venue, the NDR Radiophilharmonie collaborates with such renowned soloists as Pierre-Laurent Aimard, Julia Fischer, Igor Levit, Midori, Maurice Steger, Christian Tetzlaff and Frank Peter Zimmermann, and artists such as the King's Singers, Brad Mehldau and The Real Group in the crossover domain. Concert tours have taken the orchestra to, among other destinations, Asia and South America, and delivered high-profile appearances at the Royal Albert Hall in London, the Musikverein in Vienna and Salzburg's Großes Festspielhaus.

Former principal conductors of the NDR Radiophilharmonie include Eiji Oue, Eivind Gullberg Jensen and Andrew Manze. Since the beginning of the 2024-25 season, Stanislav Kochanovsky has held the position of Chief Conductor. The Russian conductor is one of the most interesting musicians of our time. In addition to the established repertoire, he is committed to contemporary music and the performance of works that are rarely offered to concert audiences; this breadth of repertoire is apparent in the programmes he has developed with the NDR Radiophilharmonie in Hannover, in the wider NDR broadcasting area and on tour.

In 2023, the NDR Radiophilharmonie created the position of Principal Guest Conductor. Jörg Widmann is now in his third season in this position. As one of the most sought-after contemporary composers, clarinetists and conductors, he has curated, performed and conducted a rich diversity of programmes which can be heard in the broad range of concert formats of the NDR Radiophilharmonie.

Stanislav Kochanovsky

Stanislav Kochanovsky was born in Leningrad in 1981. He attended the Glinka Choir School in his home city and subsequently enrolled at the St Petersburg State Conservatory, where he studied choral conducting, organ, and opera and symphonic conducting. In 2007 he began a formative association with St Petersburg's Mikhailovsky Theatre, where he developed his craft as the conductor of more than 60 opera and ballet productions. Kochanovsky served as Chief Conductor of the State Safonov Academic Symphony Orchestra from 2010-15 and made significant guest conducting debuts during this time with leading orchestras and opera companies in and beyond Russia.

Kochanovsky has worked with, among others, the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra, St Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, the Mariinsky Orchestra, the Russian National Orchestra, the Orchestra of the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, the Philharmonia Orchestra, the Wiener Symphoniker, the Rotterdam Philharmonic, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Orchestre de Paris, the Danish National Symphony Orchestra, the Oslo Philharmonic, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the Belgian National Orchestra, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, and the NHK Symphony Orchestra. In April 2024 he led the Dresden Philharmonic on its UK tour, giving concerts in London, Birmingham, Cardiff, Bristol, Nottingham and Edinburgh.

Stanislav Kochanovsky's artistry has drawn international acclaim. 'The [conductor's] aristocratic gesture, the languid and poetic sensibility, emerge here at their best,' noted *Opera* magazine, while *Bachtrack* concluded that his performance of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No.6 'Pathétique' with the Rotterdam Philharmonic, 'lucid, well-paced and detailed', left no doubt he has plenty to say'. In addition to his work in the concert hall, Kochanovsky is in demand as a perceptive and charismatic conductor of opera. He has also built a close association with the

Verbier Festival since 2017, presenting concert performances of operas there, including *Eugene Onegin*, *Rigoletto*, *Die Zauberflöte* and *Hänsel und Gretel*.

Tuesday 26 May 2026

The information in this press release was correct at the time of sending. Please check the organisations' websites and social media for the latest updates.

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TOUR DETAILS

Monday 12 October 2026 at 7.30pm

The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester

[Event Page](#)

PROGRAMME 1a

Ingrid Fliter piano | **Stanislav Kochanovsky** conductor | **NDR Radiophilharmonie**

Beethoven Egmont Overture

Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 4

Interval

Brahms Symphony No. 4

Tuesday 13 October 2026 at 7.30pm

Symphony Hall, Birmingham

[Event Page](#)

PROGRAMME 1b

Ingrid Fliter piano | **Stanislav Kochanovsky** conductor | **NDR Radiophilharmonie**

Beethoven Egmont Overture

Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 4

Interval

Brahms Symphony No. 2

Wednesday 14 October 2026 at 7.30pm

Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham

[Event Page](#)

Thursday 15 October 2026 at 7.30pm

Cadogan Hall, London

[Event Page](#)

Friday 16 October 2026 at 7.30pm

The Anvil, Basingstoke

[Event Page](#)

PROGRAMME 2

Nikolai Lugansky piano | **Stanislav Kochanovsky** conductor | **NDR Radiophilharmonie**

Prokofiev *Classical Symphony*

Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No. 1

Interval

Brahms Symphony No. 2