



TOKYO SINFONIA

ロバート ライカー 音楽監督
Robert Rýker, Music Director

Tokyo Sinfonia International Conductor Workshops - 2026 **June 10-19 • July 15-24 • August 11-20**

For aspiring conductors/music directors, each 10-day session of the Tokyo Sinfonia International Conductor Workshops focuses on concepts and tools for building insightful interpretations, imaginative programmes, expressive players, happy orchestras, and enthusiastic audiences. Sessions are conducted in English.

1. Each conductor will be allocated 190 minutes of individual podium time conducting the full strings of the Tokyo Sinfonia. Each conductor will receive a quality carbon graphite baton of personal choice donated by Pickboy conducting batons. Conductors are encouraged to video all sessions for personal study and reflection.
2. Each conductor is invited to propose a major work (20 minutes or more) from the Sinfonia Collection for individual study, preparation, and performance. Several scores may be requested for perusal and proposal. Each participating conductor will receive personal copies of full scores of all works selected for the session.
3. Orchestra rehearsals with the Tokyo Sinfonia totalling 16 hours are scheduled during each 10-day session of the Workshops. Personalised coaching is focused on artistic expression, effective gestic, under-conducting, rehearsal pacing, and player psychology.
4. Five interactive lecture-discussion sessions with the Tokyo Sinfonia music director and participating conductors are interspersed between the orchestra rehearsals. Topics focus on score preparation, considerations of musical character, style, structure, phrasing, balance, texture, colouring and nuance, considerations of acoustics and ambiance, and considerations of interpretation, audience attraction, and audience engagement.
5. Throughout the session, insights and approaches are provided for perceiving the character of the music in the black notes on the white page, for communicating your conception to the players to build them into a vibrant artistic unity, and for creating a performance which attracts and uplifts the audience.
6. Each participating conductor will be featured conducting the Tokyo Sinfonia in the showcase concert in Ginza's legendary Oji Hall in the heart of Tokyo. The showcase performance will be followed with an artists & audience champagne reception in the Oji Hall lobby. Concert dress for public performances of the Tokyo Sinfonia is formal. The showcase performance will be recorded, and may be individually videoed for personal use.
7. Each participating conductor will be provided 10 tickets for the public showcase concert for personal distribution. Additional tickets may be requested if available.

8. Participating conductors will be provided certificates of participation, permanent access to all 800 works in the Sinfonia Collection, long-range mentoring, and letters of reference as requested.
9. Each intensive 10-day session of the International Conductor Workshops is open to 5 participating conductors. Participating conductors admitted to each session will be notified as accepted. Workshop rehearsals and lectures are not open to auditors.
10. The fee totals \$2,000 (US), including a one-time application fee of \$50 and the session participation fee of \$1,950. Payments may be structured in increments upon request.
11. The Tokyo Sinfonia will provide a Letter of Acceptance to assist with applications for financial support or crowd-funding. Payments may be made by paypal in most countries. Please address paypal at <https://paypal.jp/> - send to: tickets@tokyosinfonia.com
12. Applicants are invited to email their enquiry with a one-page curriculum vitae to the Tokyo Sinfonia administrator at info@tokyosinfonia.com. A zoom call is recommended to address individual questions.

The Tokyo Sinfonia and Robert Rýker

“Most Imaginative Orchestra - Tokyo.” - APAC Business Awards

Ongaku-no-Tomo’s Music Critic wrote: “The sound of the Tokyo Sinfonia did not remain neatly contained on the stage but came directly to the audience in their seats to knock on the door of their hearts.”

Following a stellar career of some 2,000 performances in the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, Robert Rýker has conducted in over 50 cities in nations around the world, served as Music Director, Principal Guest Conductor or Musical Advisor to a dozen orchestras and opera companies around the world, and founded new orchestras in Canada, India, and Japan. Maestro Rýker has conducted the Tokyo Sinfonia in more than 300 public performances.

Participating conductors in the Tokyo Sinfonia International Conductor Workshops to date have come from Australia, Azarbaijan, Bulgaria, California, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, France, Georgia, Hong Kong, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kansas, Korea, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mexico, Michigan, Shanghai, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, and Texas.

From the conductors ...

FA - “Participating in the conducting workshop was a truly enjoyable experience for me, as I had the privilege of learning lots of things from Maestro Rýker! The opportunity to gain insights from his expertise was an immense honor that left a profound impact in my musical thinking. It was an unforgettable week for me.”

HC - “Thank you very much for such a wonderful week of music-making and friendship! It was pleasure to work with you and all the amazing members of the Tokyo Sinfonia. I cannot describe the impact you all have made on me.”

AOG - “Two weeks ago we started the workshop, but it was time wonderfully spent and I didn't want it to end. I go back home, not only with a better understanding of conducting, but also with a great ideas and projects. It was an extraordinary experience. It has been a huge honor, and a great pleasure, to have shared the stage with such wonderful musicians. I'm eternally grateful for all that I have learnt from you. I hope to return to continue learning and growing alongside such inspiring musicians.”

LG - “With deepest gratitude, I thank you for the extraordinary experience of these ten days with you and the Tokyo Sinfonia. I have grown in ways I had only hoped for as a conductor, and I feel truly fortunate to have learned under your guidance. Something much more than a professional endeavor — it became a deeply human and unforgettable journey.”

SM - “The Tokyo Sinfonia workshop has been an incredible experience! I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to learn from the wonderful maestro and the talented musicians! I was deeply moved by the dedication and organization of the entire team.”

UM - “I am still under the impression of our masterclass, and I can assure you that this trip changed me and my life! I am grateful for all you did for my development as a musician and as a conductor! My superiors at the Philharmonic were impressed with the results of my trip and liked the style of conducting I learned from you.”

YHT - “Thank you so much for the wonderful time I had with Tokyo Sinfonia. I've learnt so much—not just musically, but also about the kindness of people, and more importantly, about myself.