NITAI RACH

Nitai Rach Conductor | Artistic Director

Born in 1996, Nitai Rach is an award-winning Israeli conductor. He currently serves as Conductor in Residence of the Israel Chamber Orchestra, as well as Musical Director of its celebrated Fantasy concert series.

Since completing his Bachelor's degree in Orchestral Conducting at the Buchmann–Mehta School of Music at Tel Aviv University, Rach has collaborated with many of the leading orchestras in Israel and across Europe. His engagements include appearances with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, Haifa Symphony Orchestra, Ra'anana Symphonette, Be'er Sheva Sinfonietta, and 21st Century Ensemble. Internationally, he has conducted ensembles such as the Bucharest Symphony Orchestra and the Târgu Mureș State Philharmonic in Romania, the Athens Philharmonia Orchestra in Greece, the Universitätsorchester Dresden in Germany, the Lunigiana International Music Festival Orchestra in Italy, the "Haydn" Symphony Orchestra Vienna in Austria, and the Orquestra de Câmara de Cascais e Oeiras in Portugal.

In 2026, Rach reached the semi-finals of the Solti International Conducting Competition in Hungary, conducting the Pannon Philharmonic and the Hungarian Radio Symphony Orchestra over the course of the competition. His international competition achievements also include First Prize and the Orchestra Prize at the 1st "Wiener Schule" International Conducting Competition in Vienna (2021), First Prize at the OCCO Academy and Competition in Estoril, Portugal (2024), and Third Prize at the BMI International Conducting Competition in Bucharest (2023). In 2024, he also received the Special Prize at the 8th Ionel Perlea International Conducting Competition in Romania, awarded by the National Theater of Opera & Ballet "Oleg Danovski."

Recent seasons have brought significant milestones. In 2026, Rach assisted Maestro Vasily Petrenko with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra in Holst's The Planets. He also stepped in at short notice to conduct a concert featuring world-renowned trumpeter Reinhold Friedrich and soprano Daniela Skorka, with a programme that included Iván Fischer's Eine deutsch-jiddische Kantate.

In 2025, Rach performed Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 13 with world-renowned pianist Elena Bashkirova and made his debut with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. The previous year, he made his debut with the Târgu Mureș State Philharmonic alongside pianist Daniel Ciobanu, a prizewinner of the Rubinstein Competition. He was also invited to conduct the finals of the 1st "Stretto" International Piano Competition, where he served as a jury member. Earlier in 2024, he conducted the world premiere of the opera Kind of a Monster, composed by Ady Cohen with a libretto by soprano Shira Patshornik. In 2023, he was invited to conduct at the Lunigiana International Music Festival in Italy following his participation in the Florence Conducting Masterclass.

Rach has participated in conducting masterclasses with Nicolás Pasquet in Murcia, Spain (2026); Nikolay Lalov and Ricardo Averbach at the OCCO Academy in Portugal (2024); György G. Ráth at the Florence Conducting Masterclass (2023); Helmuth Reichel Silva in Dresden, Germany (2023); Michalis Economou in Athens, Greece (2023); and Jin Wang at the “Wiener Schule” Conducting Masterclass in Vienna, Austria (2021). His musicianship has also been shaped by mentorship from Lahav Shani.

He is a recipient of the American–Israel Cultural Foundation Conducting Scholarship (2022–2023) and the Colton Scholarship for Emerging Young Talents, awarded by Tel Aviv University (2022).

nitairach.com · nitairach@gmail.com