



**WÜRTTEMBERGISCHES  
KAMMERORCHESTER  
HEILBRONN**

## PRESS INFORMATION

# Case Scaglione appointed new Chief Conductor of the Württemberg Chamber Orchestra Heilbronn, starting in 2018/2019

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On Thursday, the Board of the Foundation Württembergisches Kammerorchester Heilbronn unanimously elected Case Scaglione the new chief conductor of the orchestra, starting in the 2018/2019 season.

**Madeleine Landlinger**, the artistic director of the Württemberg Chamber Orchestra Heilbronn: *“In Case Scaglione, we have found a future chief conductor for the WKO who is not only blessed with talent and focus, but who is absolutely passionate about his work. Such enthusiasm is infectious – the chemistry between the orchestra and him was excellent from the very start. We were hoping for this famous ‘click’ during our entire search process. I am looking forward to our shared journey and to growing the WKO’s strengths under his leadership.”*

The contract stipulates a period of four years, running until 2022. The 34-year-old American succeeds Ruben Gazarian, who has been the Württemberg Chamber Orchestra Heilbronn’s chief conductor since 2002. This makes Case Scaglione the third chief conductor in the history of the orchestra, which was founded in 1960 by Prof. Jörg Faerber.

**Case Scaglione:** *“I could not be happier. To me, the first meeting with the Württemberg Chamber Orchestra Heilbronn was magical – with its unmistakable sound, its musical flexibility and the incredible joy it takes in playing, the WKO enchanted me. I can hardly wait to start working with the musicians and artistic director Madeleine Landlinger, so that we can continue the success story of this excellent orchestra.”*

The US-American born in 1982 has worked with the WKO twice so far: for the final concert of the Heilbronn subscription series in 2015/2016, which also marked Case Scaglione’s German debut; and for the acclaimed guest performance of the WKO at the Liederhalle in Stuttgart a few weeks ago, in May 2017.

**Konstanze Felber-Faur**, chairwoman of the orchestra committee of the Württemberg Chamber Orchestra Heilbronn: *“His clear idea of the sound he wants, his musical accuracy and the thoughtful and energetic manner of working together convinced all the musicians from the very beginning. Now we look forward with eager anticipation to our first joint season, 2018/2019.”*

The search for a new chief conductor was entrusted mainly to Artistic Director Madeleine Landlinger. She was aided by a search committee chaired by the Chairman of the Board of the Foundation Württembergisches Kammerorchester Heilbronn, Ralf Peter Beitner. Further members of the committee were Aleksandar Maletic (chairman of the orchestra committee), Deputy Assistant Under-Secretary Christoph Heinkele (of the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts), Heilbronn’s Mayor Agnes

Christner (Associate Chairwoman of the Board of the Foundation Württemberg Chamber Orchestra Heilbronn) and Andrea Meyer-Borghardt (Conductor's Forum of the German Music Council) as an external consultant.

**Ralf Peter Beitner**, chairman of the Board of the Foundation Württembergisches Kammerorchester Heilbronn and of the search committee: *“The decision for Case Scaglione is the result of several months of a very extensive search. Our musicians evaluated a series of candidates professionally, laying the foundation for the choice. I now expect a highly fruitful collaboration. Case Scaglione marks the beginning of a new era for the Württemberg Chamber Orchestra Heilbronn.”*

Born in Houston, USA, in 1982, the American conductor Case Scaglione studied with David Zinman at the American Academy of Conducting in Aspen, where he won the James Conlon Prize. He was awarded the Aspen Conducting Prize in 2010 and in 2011 received the Conductor's Prize from the Solti Foundation US. He was one of three Conducting Fellows at Tanglewood in 2011, chosen by James Levine and Stefan Asbury. That same year he was appointed associate conductor at the New York Philharmonic – a position revived for him especially by Alan Gilbert. In 2015 he has been living and working in Europe, making his home in Berlin with his wife. He is regularly invited to guest-conduct all over the world, including by the Orchestre National d'Île de France, Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne, Kristiansand Symfoniorkester, Brno Philharmonic, Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg, China Philharmonic Orchestra, Shanghai und Guangzhou Symphony Orchestras, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Colombia, and by renowned orchestras of his homeland and Canada, such as the New York Philharmonic, Dallas, Detroit and Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Sarasota Orchestra, The Juilliard Orchestra, Calgary Philharmonic and Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra.

**Agnes Christner**, Mayor of the City of Heilbronn and associate chairman of the Board of the Foundation Württembergisches Kammerorchester Heilbronn: *“A new chief conductor for the WKO, a new artistic ambassador for the city of Heilbronn! His internationality goes well with this city and region, which practices open-mindedness and is home to world-class corporations. We look forward to welcoming the new citizen of Heilbronn, Case Scaglione, and to the musical impulses he will impart to our city, but also during numerous concert tours with our musical ambassador, the WKO.”*

Two of the world's most renowned conductors, who have been important artistic companions, mentors and partners in Case Scaglione's career, congratulate him on the position of chief conductor of the Württemberg Chamber Orchestra Heilbronn:

**Alan Gilbert**, chief conductor of the New York Philharmonic and designated chief conductor of the NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchestra, congratulates Case Scaglione: *“Case Scaglione is one of the most gifted conductors of the younger generation, and my belief in him has only grown over time. He has a deep and cultivated musical sensibility that will be a perfect fit for this marvellous orchestra, and I can't wait to hear what this partnership will reveal in the years to come.”*

**Jaap van Zweden**, chief conductor of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and the Hong Kong Philharmonic and designated chief conductor of the New York Philharmonic: *“I am very happy for Case to have this opportunity of becoming the chief conductor of this wonderful and respected chamber orchestra! To me, Case is also the right choice. He brings new energy and is a gifted conductor. In my opinion, the tradition of this chamber orchestra and Case's*

*extraordinary abilities will lead to a great collaboration."*