

Jakub Hrůša has been principal conductor of the Bamberg Symphony since September 2016. He is the fifth Chief conductor in the orchestra's history. "Even before I had the chance to conduct this jewel among European orchestras, I had been a huge admirer," says Jakub Hrůša. "They embody orchestral culture in the fullest sense of the word. Since the orchestra's roots are in Prague, we breathe the same musical air, so to speak, share the same cultural background, and are very close artistically and historically. With the Bamberg Symphony, every phrase can turn to be a little miracle, and every concert is a transfiguration."

"Downright blazing with passion, energy and power" at the 2019 BBC Proms, The Times wrote about Jakub Hrůša, born in Brno in the Czech Republic. He is Principal Guest Conductor of the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra and, from the 21/22 season, of the Orchestra dell' Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia Rome, previously of the Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra and the Philharmonia Orchestra. From 2009-2015 he was music director and principal conductor of PKF-Prague Philharmonia.

He is a frequent guest with many of the world's greatest orchestras: the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonic Orchestras, the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony, the Chicago Symphony and the Cleveland Orchestra, the Orchestre de Paris, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, the NHK Symphony Orchestra and the Munich Philharmonic. He has also conducted concerts with the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, the Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresen, the DSO Berlin, the Vienna Symphony Orchestra, the ORF Radio Symphony Orchestra Vienna, the Filarmonica della Scala, the Lucerne Festival Orchestra as well as the San Francisco Symphony and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Immediate re-invitations followed everywhere.

As an opera conductor, Jakub Hrůša regularly appears at the Glyndebourne Festival and was Music Director of "Glyndebourne on Tour" for three years. He has conducted productions at the Vienna State Opera, Opéra National de Paris, Frankfurt Opera, Finnish National Opera, Royal Danish Opera and Prague National Theatre. In the 2017/2018 season, he performed again at the Paris Opera as well as at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden in London. At the beginning of the 2019/2020 season, he made his debut with Leoš Janáček's "The Makropulos Affair" at Zurich Opera.

Jakub Hrůša's extraordinary collaboration with the Bamberg Symphony - including outstanding contemporary soloists - has resulted in several award-winning CD recordings since he took up his post as principal conductor in 2016: For example, the recording of Martinů's 4th and Dvořák's only piano concerto with pianist Ivo Kahánek (Supraphonl) was awarded the Anděl Prize 2019. The recording of the Martinů Violin Concertos (2020) together with Frank Peter Zimmermann (BIS) was recognised on the Best List of the German Record Critics' Prize, as was the recording of Gustav Mahler's 4th Symphony (2020; accentus music). Another highlight is the complete recording of Bedřich Smetana's "Má vlast" in the "direct-to-disc" process (accentus music), in which the recording is made directly onto the disc without digital post-production. At the end of 2021, the third and fourth parts of the edition of symphonic works by Johannes Brahms and Antonín Dvořák will be released on the TUDOR label, as well as a recording of Anton Bruckner's 4th Symphony in all three versions, united in one collection - a unique project to date.

He has also presented live recordings of Hector Berlioz's "Symphonie fantastique", Richard Strauss's "Eine Alpensinfonie" and Josef Suk's "Asrael" Symphony with the Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra (Octavia Records). The latter also with the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra (BR Klassik). He has also recorded Dvořák's Violin Concerto with Augustin Hadelich and the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra (Warner Classics), which was nominated for a Grammy Award, and Dvořák's "Requiem" and "Te Deum" with the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra (Decca).

Jakub Hrůša studied conducting at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague. He is President of the International Martinů Circle and the Dvořák Society, and lives in London with his wife and two children. In 2020, he received the Antonín Dvořák Prize of the Czech Academy of Classical Music, and was the first to receive the Sir Charles Mackerras Prize in 2015.