

Since the 2022/23 season, Azim Karimov has held the position of Conductor and Musical Assistant to the General Music Director, Vladimir Jurowski, at the Bavarian State Opera. Recently, Azim has actively participated in the Bavarian State Opera's new productions, including *War and Peace*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Die Passagierin*, *Pique Dame*, and *The Nose* and has also conducted a production of *Peter and the Wolf*.

Upcoming engagements for Azim include performances of *Die Passagierin* at the Bavarian State Opera, *Eugene Onegin* at the Norwegian National Opera and concerts with the Romanian National Radio Orchestra and the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra.



From the 2017 to 2020 seasons, Karimov served as Chief Conductor of the Moscow Chamber Orchestra 'Entre Nous'. In 2018, he made his high-profile international debut, becoming the first Russian conductor to lead the Kyoto International Music Students Festival. In 2019, he became the Chief Conductor of the Moscow State Chamber Orchestra of the Pavel Slobodkin Centre and from 2020 to 2022, he worked as a Conductor for the Moscow State Symphony Orchestra in collaboration with Artistic Director Ivan Rudin. During this period, Azim participated in significant festivals in Moscow's musical life, such as the International Music Festivals 'ArsLonga XX' and 'ArsLonga XXI' in 2020 and 2021, including the 'Beethoven Marathon' in 2020, the 'Tchaikovsky Marathon' in 2021, and 'Beethoven. All Symphonies' in 2021.

During these years, he successfully collaborated with major orchestras in Moscow, such as the State Academic Symphony Orchestra 'Evgeny Svetlanov', the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra, the Moscow State Academic Symphony Orchestra, the Moscow Novaya Opera Theatre and the Studio for New Music.

As Music Director, Azim led the world premiere of Besogonov's opera *The Fruit at the Bottom of the Bowl* at the International Diaghilev Festival in 2017. In 2018, he conducted Moscow performances of Stravinsky's opera *Mavra* and the chamber opera-ballet *Renard* as part of the London Philharmonic Orchestra's Festival. In 2019, Azim initiated and conducted the Moscow premiere of Britten's opera-parable *Curlew River*. During the 2020/21 season, Karimov was invited to work with the Opéra National de Lyon before joining it for the Aix-en-Provence Festival.

Born in Pärnu, Estonia, Karimov graduated as an oboist from the Schnittke Moscow State College of Music in 2012 and from the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory in 2018 as a symphony and opera conductor under the guidance of Prof. Gennady Rozhdestvensky. During his studies, he participated in masterclasses given by eminent conductors, including Michail Jurowski, Vladimir Jurowski, Vasily Petrenko, Vassily Sinaisky, Howard Griffiths and Teodor Currentzis.

