

Since the 2022/23 season, Azim Karimov has held the position of Conductor at the Bavarian State Opera. Recently, Azim has actively participated in 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 *Ruslan and Lyudmila* at the Staatsoper Hamburg, *The Nutcracker*, *Die Walküre*, *Die Passagierin* and *Christmas Eve* with the Bayerisches Staatsorchester, symphony concerts with the Algarve Orchestra.

He conducted *Eugene Onegin* and *Tosca* at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein, a CD recording of *Peter and the Wolf* with the Bayerisches Staatsorchester, a concert at the opening of the Münchner Opernfestspiele with the Bayerisches Staatsorchester and the Bayerischer Staatsopernchor. Additional appearances include performances with the Transylvania State Philharmonic Orchestra. He conducted concerts with the Romanian National Radio Orchestra and the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra.

From 2017 to 2020, Karimov was Chief Conductor of the Moscow Chamber Orchestra Entre Nous. In 2018, he made his international debut as the first Russian conductor at the Kyoto International Music Students Festival. He later became Chief Conductor of the Moscow State Chamber Orchestra of the Pavel Slobodkin Centre (2019) and from 2020 to 2022 worked with the Moscow State Symphony Orchestra under Ivan Rudin. During this time, he appeared at major festivals in Moscow, including ArsLonga XX–XXI, the Beethoven Marathon (2020) and the Tchaikovsky Marathon (2021).

He has collaborated with leading Moscow ensembles such as the State Academic Symphony Orchestra "Evgeny Svetlanov", the Moscow Philharmonic, the Novaya Opera Theatre, and the Studio for New Music. As Music Director, he has led important premieres, including Besogonov's opera *The Fruit at the Bottom of the Bowl* (Diaghilev Festival, 2017), Stravinsky's *Mavra* and *Renard* (2018), and Britten's *Curlew River* (Moscow premiere, 2019). In 2020/21, he worked with the Opéra National de Lyon before joining 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.

