
Leonhard Kreutzmann, born 2003 in Bonn, is recognized as one of the most promising conductors of his generation. He has been Chief Conductor of the KHG Orchestra Freiburg since fall 2024 and previously conducted the Zentralschweizer Jugendsinfonieorchester in summer 2024.

In September 2024, he performed with the Lucerne Symphony Orchestra, and in February 2025, he has yet another significant career highlight ahead of him: the performance of Mendelssohn's Elijah oratorio with the KHG orchestra and choir.

Since September 2023, he has been pursuing his conducting studies at the Zurich University of the Arts under the guidance of Prof. Christoph-Mathias Mueller and Prof. Johannes Schlaefli, following his earlier studies with Professor Vassilis Christopoulos in Frankfurt. As part of his training, he has already conducted renowned orchestras such as the Kammerorchester Basel, Nürnberger Symphoniker, the Göttinger Symphoniker, and the Slovak Philharmonic Bratislava.

Born into a family of musicians, he received his first cello lessons from Barbara Varsanyi at the age of four. This was soon followed by lessons in piano and trumpet. As a cellist, he gained extensive experience in solo repertoire and orchestral playing and won several prizes at the 'Jugend Musiziert' competition.

In 2020, he was accepted into the NRW State Youth Orchestra and studied in Frankfurt with Florian Streich before continuing his training in Zurich with Prof. Orfeo Mandozzi.

In addition to his instrumental training, he studied in Prof. Thomas Heyer's singing class in Frankfurt, which also enabled him to work closely with singers as a répétiteur and intensified his passion for opera.

In 2024, he was awarded a scholarship by the Cusanuswerk and is a prizewinner of the International Erik Satie Competition in the 'Conducting' category. He has received valuable impulses from Cristian Macelaru and has taken part in masterclasses with renowned conductors such as Paavo Järvi, Michael Sanderling, Jorma Panula and Ole-Kristian Ruud.
