



WORLD ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY

## **BALTIC SEA YOUTH PHILHARMONIC: THE SOUND AND FACE OF THE BALTIC SEA REGION**

### **United voice of the Baltic Sea region**

The Baltic Sea Youth Philharmonic (BYP) is the only orchestra bringing together highly talented young musicians from the ten countries of the Baltic Sea region. Uniting the people of this region and bridging national boundaries forms the basis of the orchestra's ambition to enable cultural and social cooperation. Just as the Baltic Sea both separates and connects its ten surrounding countries, BYP celebrates the diverse national characteristics of the musicians and the music while creating a united voice for the entire region.

Each year, the finest musicians are chosen from across Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia and Sweden to form a unique orchestra. Guided by Founding Conductor and Music Director Kristjan Järvi, BYP prepares original programmes for international tours that bring the rich sounds of the Baltic Sea to the world, including many world premieres. In its commissioning of new music by living composers and in reimagining familiar works, BYP dedicates itself to keeping the musical landscape of the region alive.

In recent years, BYP has toured the entire Baltic Sea region and played at numerous international festivals such as the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival, the Stars of the White Nights Music Festival in St. Petersburg, the Baltic Sea Festival in Stockholm, the Bonn Beethovenfest, the Rheingau Music Festival and the Usedom Music Festival, birthplace and home of the orchestra. Concert tours have taken BYP to Italy for several years to, for example, Meraner Musikwochen, MiTo Festival and Settembre dell'Accademia in Verona, bringing the Baltic Sea sound also to the south of Europe, and in 2014 the orchestra made its debut at Berlin's prestigious Philharmonie.

The orchestra was initiated in 2008 by Usedom Music Festival and Nord Stream AG, the gas pipeline operator who continues to support the orchestra as main sponsor. Saipem, one of the global leaders in the engineering & construction and drilling businesses supports BYP as sponsor. In 2015, the Baltic Sea Youth Philharmonic goes on two major tours across Europe, makes its first official album release and will be honoured with the European Cultural Prize by the European Foundation for Culture.

