Danielle Lisbôa

Orchestral Conductor

GUEST CONDUCTING INQUIRIES
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Photo: Tyler Baker Photography

Video excerpts

Carmina Burana
Carl Orff. Edmonton Metropolitan Chorus (2018)

Overture for the Worlds
Allan Gilliland. *East Meets West*, Winspear Centre (2023)

Old Photographs
Christos Hatzis. Piano trio, Vaduz, Liechtenstein (2024)

Brazilian-Canadian Danielle Lisbôa is a visionary orchestral conductor, pianist, and scholar renowned for dynamic podium leadership, adventurous cross-cultural programming, and audience engagement.

Upon arriving in Canada, Lisbôa made an immediate mark with Orchestra Toronto, advancing rapidly from apprentice to Assistant Conductor, and subsequently to Music Director and Conductor. Her tenure was marked by a steep surge in attendance, groundbreaking youth outreach initiatives, and cutting-edge repertoire. She later directed Bellus Barbari (Toronto Women's Symphony Orchestra) on its inaugural Ontario tour.

Currently, Lisbôa serves as Professor of Music in the areas of conducting and music theory at Concordia University of Edmonton. On the podium, she has reimagined the orchestral concert experience by intertwining standard symphonic repertoire with global instrumental traditions, incorporating instruments such as the Middle Eastern oud, Asian guzheng, South American cavaquinho, and Indian sitar. In 2024, she led the Concordia Chamber Nucleus on a tour across Switzerland, Austria, Liechtenstein, and Italy as both conductor and pianist.

An internationally recognized guest artist and educator, Lisbôa has served as a visiting scholar with the Southwest University Symphony Orchestra in Chongqing, China, leading a two-week summer orchestral program, and with the Université catholique de l'Ouest in Angers, France, where she presented conducting workshops and masterclasses.

Her research explores women and podium leadership, the transcription and analysis of indigenous sacred rituals in Brazil, and immersive technologies applied to conductors' training. Lisbôa is also a passionate speaker on diversity and leadership and has addressed audiences at the University of Porto, the Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro, the International Conductors Guild Conference in Valencia and the Orchestras Canada National Conference.

Lisbôa holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Orchestral Conducting from the Eastman School of Music and a Master of Music with an opera conducting emphasis from the University of Houston, having commenced her professional musical journey as a concert pianist and conductor in Rio de Janeiro. She is based in Edmonton, Alberta.

At a glance

Current positions
Professor of Music (Conducting & Theory), Concordia University of Edmonton
Artistic Director and Chief Conductor, Capital City Symphony

Core expertise
Symphonic & Operatic Repertoire, Cross-Cultural Programming, Contemporary Premieres, Youth & Community Engagement.

Select past leadership
Music Director and Conductor, Orchestra Toronto

Speaking & advocacy
Keynote speaker on alternative leadership frameworks, women and leadership on the podium, immersive technologies in conductors' training, multisensory technologies to deliver multidimensional audio and visual experiences.

International engagements
Southwest University Symphony Orchestra (Chongqing, China)
CSO Chamber Nucleus European Tour (Switzerland, Austria, Liechtenstein, Italy)
Université catholique de l'Ouest (France)
National Academy for the Performing Arts (Trinidad and Tobago)
Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

Education & honors
DMA in Orchestral Conducting (Eastman School of Music)
MM in Conducting (University of Houston)
BMus (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro)

Base
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

> It became almost routine that our audiences would provide a standing ovation at each concert that she led.
>
> John Kingston, Chair of Orchestra Toronto

> [Danielle Lisbôa] is an outstanding conducting talent.
>
> Franz Anton Krager, Music Director and Chief Conductor, Texas Music Festival