

# BIOGRAPHY

Chief conductor of the Philharmonie Südwestfalen since 2019 and Music Director of the Munich Chamber Opera since September 2011, Nabil Shehata began his conducting career in 2006 having received encouragement and instruction from Daniel Barenboim, Rolf Reuter, Lawrence Foster and Christian Thielemann. After gaining initial experience working with various youth and chamber orchestras, Nabil gave his critically acclaimed conducting debut in Cottbus in 2007 and a year later conducted the Simon Bolivar Orchestra.

Born to parents of German and Egyptian descent, Nabil Shehata grew up in Germany and having received piano lessons from his mother at the age of six he took his first double bass lessons three years later with Thomas Zscherpe, going on to study with Michinori Bunya and Esko Laine.

He is the laureate of several international competitions including the ARD competition in Munich, where he received not only the first prize but also the coveted audience award as well. From 2004 to 2008 he was the principal bass player of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, with which he performed as soloist under Daniel Barenboim. He has commissioned many double bass works from composers including a concerto by Moritz Eggert.

Supporting young artists is of particular importance to Nabil Shehata and he is strongly committed to the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra, of which he has been a member for many years.

## **important note:**

**Any changes to the text require the express consent of the artist.**