

Biography Lilli Paasikivi

Designated Artistic Director of Bregenz Festival

Lilli Paasikivi has held the position of Artistic Director of the Finnish National Opera since 2013. In addition to being responsible of the artistic quality and season planning, she has been boldly reinventing the work of the opera company. The special projects Paasikivi has launched during her tenure include the long-term Opera Beyond project, which explores the opportunities opened by new technologies in the opera and ballet art forms.

While tenured as a soloist at the Finnish National Opera from 1998 to 2013, Lilli Paasikivi also built a notable international career. As a soloist, she has performed with many of the leading ensembles, such as the London Symphony Orchestra, the New York, Vienna and Berlin Philharmonic orchestras.

The Order of the Lion of Finland has awarded her two honours for her artistic merits: the Pro Finlandia Medal in 2008, and the Commander in 2017. Paasikivi has also been active in producing several local summer festivals in Finland. She has also been active in the cultural debate and as public speaker and lectures regularly about cultural and resilience issues.