



Franziska Rau | Photo: Theater Erfurt

## "MATURE MUSICALITY": WEIMAR STUDENT FRANZISKA RAU HAS WON THE AUDITION FOR PRINCIPAL DOUBLE BASS OF THE MAGDEBURG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

For the second time within a few months there is good news from the Weimar double bass class: Master student Franziska Rau from the class of Prof. Dominik Greger has won the audition for **principal double bass of the Magdeburg Philharmonic Orchestra at the Theater Magdeburg**. She will begin her trial year under General Music Director Anna Skryleva in May 2021.

The 28-year-old would still like to complete her master's degree at the University of Music FRANZ LISZT Weimar. Most recently, her fellow student Christoph Haaß has become principal double bass of the Staatsphilharmonie Rheinland-Pfalz.

"I am tremendously happy for Franziska Rau," said her teacher, **Prof. Dominik Greger**. "With her mature musicality and the numerous orchestral experiences in her backpack, she will do an outstanding job in this new position!"

"I am insanely happy about winning the audition and am very much looking forward to the trial year in Magdeburg," says the double bass player, who has already gained years of professional experience with temporary contracts in the Staatskapelle Weimar, the Philharmonic Orchestra Erfurt, the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra and the Gewandhaus Orchestra Leipzig.

In an **exciting selection process**, she had to tackle various concertos and orchestral passages from the classical and romantic periods over three rounds in Magdeburg. "What I have really appreciated since I

started studying at Weimar is the cohesion in the double bass class," Franziska Rau said. "I am grateful to my professor Dominik Greger for standing behind me from the beginning."

Born in Neubrandenburg in 1992, **Franziska Rau** first received lessons on the violin before switching to the double bass in 2004. From 2007 to 2012 she was a junior student at the Hanns Eisler Academy of Music in Berlin. Afterwards she began her Bachelor studies at the University of Music FRANZ LISZT Weimar.

The double bass player has acquired experience in various youth orchestras, as well as in the Federal Youth Orchestra (Bundesjugendorchester) from 2009 to 2011. In 2016, she was given a temporary contract as a principal player with the Staatskapelle Weimar; she then became an academy member of the Philharmonic Orchestra Erfurt in 2017.

This was followed by temporary contracts with the Dresden Philharmonic (2018/19) and the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra (2019/20). Since 2012 Franziska Rau has been a scholarship holder of the Yehudi Menuhin Foundation "Live Music Now".

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