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Kornel Thomas is an award-winning conductor and composer. As a composer, he won the 4th Lawson-May Award for composition at the Solent Music Festival, the 2024 International Clarinet Association New Music Composition Competition Solo Category award, 2nd Prize in composition at the 2023 5th Zodiac International Music Competition, 2nd Prize at the 2022 Bartok World Competition in Composition and two prizes at the 2020

MUPA Composers Competition. His works have been premiered at venues such as Palace of the Arts Budapest, Franz Liszt Academy of Music, Budapest Music Center, and Ithaca College.

As a conductor, Thomas was awarded 2nd Prize and two special prizes at the 2018 Opera Nice Conducting Competition and 3rd Prize at the 2016 Atlantic Coast Conductors Competition. In 2021, he made his debut with the Hungarian State Opera and Ballet by conducting Heggie's *Dead Man Walking* and has since become a recurring guest conductor. Thomas was assistant conductor of Savaria Symphony Orchestra from 2017 to 2020 and staff conductor with the Hungarian National Philharmonic Orchestra from 2019 to 2020. He has guest conducted numerous renowned professional ensembles, including the Dohnányi Orchestra Budafok, Győr Philharmonic Orchestra, MAV Symphony Orchestra, Nice Philharmonic Orchestra, Argovia Philharmonic, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, and ORF Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, among others.

Thomas studied conducting at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna and composition at the Saint Stephen King Conservatory Budapest.