

Thomas Blunt

Conductor



“Thomas Blunt conducts with an intuitive understanding of the drama.”

Classical Source

Thomas Blunt studied at Cambridge University and the Royal College of Music in London, and was the first ever British participant of the prestigious Allianz International Conductors' Academy, where he worked with the London Philharmonic and Philharmonia Orchestras. A passionate and adept proponent of Italian opera, he is also one of the most versatile conductors of his generation, with repertoire ranging from Bach to contemporary music.

He enjoys a close relationship with Glyndebourne, where he began his career as Chorus Master and has since conducted *L'elisir d'amore*, *Falstaff*, *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and *La cenerentola* on the Tour. During this time at Glyndebourne, Thomas worked closely with Music Director Vladimir Jurowski, resulting in his appointment as Jurowski's Assistant Conductor with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, with which he has since conducted performances at venues including the Royal Festival Hall (including three UK premieres), Queen Elizabeth Hall, and the Sala São Paulo, where the LPO were joined by the *Coro da Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo* for Bruckner's *Mass in E minor*. For OSESP, he has since conducted Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* and Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem*.

He has conducted *Jephtha* for Welsh National Opera, *Don Pasquale* and *La Traviata* for Longborough Festival Opera, *La cenerentola* for Opéra national du Rhin, and the world premiere of Dave Maric's *Ghosts* for the Royal Opera House at the Linbury Theatre. In 2014, he made his Swiss debut with *Ariadne auf Naxos* at Konzert Theater Bern and was subsequently appointed First Kapellmeister for the following season. During his tenure he conducted a highly successful new production of *Die Zauberflöte* as well as performances of *La cenerentola*. He has since returned to

Bern as a guest in 2016 to conduct *Lohengrin*.

Other operatic appearances include *I pagliacci* for Opéra de Baugé, *Madam Butterfly* for Iford Arts, Cimarosa's *Italian Girl in London* at the Buxton Festival and Gluck's *Il Parnaso confuso* and Bertoni's *Orfeo* at St John's Smith Square (all with Bampton Classical Opera), and acclaimed productions of *The Rape of Lucretia* and *The Turn of the Screw*, which he co-produced for the Arcola Theatre, London.

Concert highlights include, in addition to the LPO and OSESP, also the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchester Musikkollegium Winterthur, RTÉ Concert Orchestra and the St Endellion Festival.

Aside from his work with Vladimir Jurowski at Glyndebourne and the LPO, Thomas has also assisted conductors such as Iván Fischer with the Budapest Festival Orchestra and Bernard Haitink with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and worked for Opera North, Opéra de Lyon, La Monnaie, and the Cantiere Internazionale d'Arte di Montepulciano.

Recent and future highlights include his first new production for Glyndebourne, *Rigoletto*, his house debut at the Royal Danish Opera with *Idomeneo*, a performance of *Lu'ltimo sogno – Der letzte Traum*, an opera in one act by Carlo Ciccri and Giuseppe Verdi at Staatstheater Kassel, to Longborough Festival Opera for *Don Giovanni* and Welsh National Opera for *The Magic Flute*, as well as performances with the LPO, Coro and Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo, and the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra.

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