

Nicholas Cleobury

Conductor



“ Nicholas Cleobury conducted so intelligently and the Orchestra played with such virtuoso skill that few members of the audience can have failed to be intrigued or dazzled”

The Guardian

Nicholas Cleobury has an international reputation in the concert hall, opera house and recording studio, and as a lecturer and teacher. He is the Artistic Director of Mid Wales Opera, Principal Conductor of the John Armitage Memorial (JAM), Principal Conductor and Founder Director of **Sounds New** and Principal Conductor of the Oxford Bach Choir. He is also Founder Laureate of the Britten Sinfonia.

Cleobury has conducted most of the leading symphony and chamber orchestras of Great Britain, including the English Chamber, Halle, London Mozart Players, London Philharmonic, London Symphony, Northern Sinfonia, Philharmonia, Royal Liverpool and Royal Philharmonic Orchestras, Royal Scottish National, Scottish Chamber, Ulster and all the BBC Orchestras. Further afield, he has worked with orchestras including Aalborg Symphony, Aarhus Symphony, Belgian National, Copenhagen Philharmonic, Czech Philharmonic, Gulbenkian, Lithuanian Chamber, Irish Chamber, Slovenian Radio, Stockholm Philharmonic, Swedish Radio, Tonhalle Zurich and Trondheim Symphony, while further afield he has worked with orchestras in Melbourne, Singapore and South Africa (Cape Philharmonic Orchestra, Kwa Zulu Natal Orchestra/Durban and Johannesburg Philharmonic.) He has also appeared at festivals in Austria, Belgium, France, Poland, Spain and the USA and at major British festivals, and at the BBC Proms.

Nicholas Cleobury has conducted for numerous opera companies including Aldeburgh Festival, British Youth Opera, Canadian Opera, Chicago Opera Theater, Co Operative Opera, English Bach Festival, English National Opera, Flanders, Gothenburg, Hamburg, Kent and Malmo Operas, Opera North, Opera 80, Stockholm and Welsh National Operas. He was Principal Conductor of the Royal Academy of Music Opera and Musical Director of Broomhill and is a regular guest at Zurich Opera. He has worked with numerous leading directors, including Peter Hall, Nicholas Hytner and Jonathan Miller and countless leading singers.

He is an expert choral director, having been Assistant Director of the BBC Singers and worked with choirs from the Swedish and Danish Radio Choirs to the Melbourne Chorale, the Netherlands Chamber Choir and the Royal and Huddersfield Choral Societies.

Cleobury has given over 100 premieres, is a fervent champion of new music and has worked closely with many notable contemporary composers, such as Bennett, Boulez, Birtwistle, Maxwell Davies, Henze, Ligeti, Macmillan, Patterson, Ruders, Tavener and Turnage and collaborated extensively with the late Sir Michael Tippett. He has conducted many leading specialist new music ensembles including Aquarius, Birmingham Contemporary Music Group, London Sinfonietta, Die Reihe (Vienna) and Opera Nova (Zurich) and contemporary groups at most of the major Music Colleges. In 1997, he founded Sounds New to bring contemporary music to a wider public. Actively involved in creative projects with student composers of all ages, he has also worked widely with young musicians and students, notably at the Royal Academy of Music, and also the Birmingham Conservatoire, GSMD, RCM, RSAMD and Trinity Laban, as well as conducting a number of youth orchestra, including the London Schools Symphony and Northern Junior Philharmonic. He is also a vibrant and persuasive speaker and lecturer, in demand as a communicator both on and off the rostrum, and as a teacher of conducting.

A regular broadcaster with the BBC, Classic FM and on European radio, Nicholas Cleobury's discography includes highly-regarded recordings of Mozart Concertos with the Britten Sinfonia and RPO, an award-winning CD of the music of Richard Strauss for EMI, Bridge, Headington, Maw and English Music with the Britten Sinfonia, and many others including the Chopin Piano Concertos and **A Spanish Fiesta** with the RPO.

Highlights this season and beyond include tours with Mid Wales Opera, return visits to orchestras including the RPO, Sonderjylland and Odense, and engagements further afield in Hong Kong and the USA (with both Opera Omaha and the Omaha Symphony Orchestra).

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