Rayfield Allied

Benjamin Bayl

Conductor



"Bayl conducts the orchestra to a thrilling and at times breathtaking reading, with an irresistible arc that is maintained for the entire duration of the evening"
The Times

Benjamin Bayl is a conductor of remarkable versatility, equally at home in the worlds of symphonic, operatic and period instrument performance. Co-founder of the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra, he is widely recognised for his historically informed approach to baroque, classical and romantic repertoire, as well as his flair for opera and contemporary music.

Upcoming season highlights include debuts and returns to New Zealand Opera (Bizet *Les pêcheurs de perles*), Opera Ballet Vlaanderen (Rossini *Il barbiere di Siviglia*), Finnish Baroque Orchestra, Orchestre National d'Île de France, MusikTheater an der Wien, Badische Staatskapelle Karlsruhe, Collegium Vocale Gent, Hungarian National Opera, Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, The Grange Festival with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Wroclaw Baroque Orchestra and Szczecin Philharmonic Orchestra.

He has performed extensively across Australasia and Europe, working with all the major Australian orchestras, Auckland Philharmonia, Hong Kong Philharmonic, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Malaysian Philharmonic and Taipei Symphony Orchestras, as well as Hungarian National Philharmonic Orchestra, Zagreb Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonie Zuidnederland, Orchestra del Teatro Petruzzelli di Bari, and Orchestra Haydn di Bolzano. He has conducted many German orchestras including Aachen, Bochum and Bremen, as well as several Scandinavian orchestras in Aalborg, Aarhus, Copenhagen, Gävle, Odense, Stavanger and Umeå.

A regular at major opera houses worldwide, he has conducted productions for Staatsoper Berlin (Purcell *The Fairy Queen*), Royal Danish Opera (Mozart *Don Giovanni*), Opera Australia (Handel *Orlando*), Dutch National Opera (Cimarosa *Il matrimonio Segreto*), Wiener Staatsoper (Johanna Doderer *Fatima oder von den mutigen Kindern*), Staatsoper Hannover (Gluck *Orfeo ed Euridice*), Den Norske Opera Oslo (Mozart *Don Giovanni*), Deutsche Oper am Rhein (Bizet *Carmen*), Opera Ballet Vlaanderen (Gluck *Iphigénie en Tauride* and Mozart *Idomeneo*), Budapest State Opera (Purcell *The Fairy Queen* and Mozart *Così fan tutte*), Polish National Opera (Mozart *La Clemenza di Tito*), Savonlinna Opera Festival (*Giulio Cesare*) and Opéra de Oviedo (Handel *Agrippina* and Mozart *Le nozze di Figaro*). For Staatsoper Stuttgart he has conducted Vivaldi *Juditha Triumphans*, Rameau *Platée*, and baroque pasticcio "*La Fest*" which he also curated. He is a regular guest at MusikTheater an der Wien where his titles have included Bernstein *Candide*, Cavalli *Il Giasone*, Charpentier Medée, plus *Flavio* and *Radamisto* by Handel, and at Warsaw Chamber Opera leading several Mozart titles, Lully *Armide*, Rameau *Castor et Pollux* and *Pygmalion*.

Bayl brings particular insight to the Viennese classics, historically informed baroque and romantic works, and world premieres of new commissions. A specialist in period performance, he has directed ensembles such as Collegium Vocale Gent and Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin at the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, and led Concerto Köln at the Bayreuth Baroque Festival. He has also appeared with B'Rock, Vocalconsort Berlin, Bach Consort Wien, Orfeo Zenekar, Concerto Copenhagen and Wrocław Baroque Orchestra. He was Associate Director of The Hanover Band for many seasons, where he led numerous projects including the recording of a Beethoven Symphony cycle, and the ensemble's first tour to China.

Committed to education and mentorship, he has led projects with young artists at the Australian National Academy of Music, Netherlands Youth Orchestra and Slovak Youth Orchestra.

Holding both Dutch and Australian nationality, Bayl was the first Australian Organ Scholar of King's College Cambridge. After studying conducting at London's Royal Academy of Music and National Opera Studio, he was appointed Assistant Conductor to Iván Fischer and the Budapest Festival Orchestra. He also worked alongside Yannick Nézét-Séguin & Daniel Harding with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra of Europe.

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