

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 Theater an der Wien, New Zealand Opera, Orchestre National d'Île de France, Finnish Baroque Orchestra, Collegium Vocale Gent, Hungarian National Opera, Wrocław 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 Filharmonica di Torino, Orchestra Haydn di Bolzano, and the German symphony orchestras of Aachen, Bochum and Bremen. He has conducted numerous Scandinavian orchestras including Aalborg, Aarhus, Copenhagen, Gävle, Odense, Stavanger and Umeå. His international festival appearances include Edinburgh International, Savonlinna Opera Festival (Handel *Giulio Cesare*), Melbourne, Cartagena, Euro Klassik Berlin, Ruhrtriennale, "Chopin in his Europe" Festival, Mozart Festival Warsaw and Händel Festival Halle.

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 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*) 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" and is a regular guest at Theater an der Wien where his titles have included Bernstein *Candide*, Cavalli *Giasone*, Charpentier *Medea* plus *Flavio* and *Rad amisto* by Handel, and Warsaw Chamber Opera including Lully *Armide*, Rameau *Castor et Pollux* and *Pygmalion* and Mozart *La finta semplice*, *La Clemenza di Tito*, *Don Giovanni* and *Così fan tutte*.

Equally at ease in a wide range of repertoire, 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 at the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, and led Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin and Concerto Köln at the Bayreuth Baroque Festival and Theater an der Wien. He has also appeared with B'Rock, Vocalconsort Berlin, Bach Consort Wien, Orfeo Zenekar, Concerto Copenhagen, Wrocław Baroque Orchestra and the Australian Haydn Ensemble. He was Associate Director for The Hanover Band with whom he led numerous projects and recorded a Beethoven Symphony cycle.

Committed to education and mentorship, he frequently leads projects with young artists including the Australian National

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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 for three seasons, and also worked alongside Yannick Nézet-Séguin & Daniel Harding with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra of Europe.

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