

Garry Walker

Conductor



Scottish-born Garry Walker is currently Chief Conductor of the Staatsorchester Rheinische Philharmonie, and Music Director of Opera North.

Previously he has held positions as Permanent Guest Conductor of Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Principal Guest Conductor of Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Principal Conductor of Paragon Ensemble, and Artistic Director of Conducting at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

In the UK **Garry Walker** has worked with all the BBC orchestras, Hallé, London Philharmonic, London Sinfonietta, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Philharmonia, City of Birmingham Symphony and National Youth Orchestra of Scotland. Chamber orchestras have included the Britten Sinfonia, Manchester Camerata. Royal Northern Sinfonia, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra and Academy of St Martin in the Fields. His regular appearances at the Edinburgh International Festival have included notable performances of Mahler's Second Symphony, Kurtág's *Stele*, and MacMillan's *The Quickenings*, all with the RSNO.

Further afield Garry has worked with orchestras including the Aalborg Symfoniorkester, Gothenburg Symphony, Dortmund Philharmoniker, Orchestra dell'Opera Roma, Orchestre Philharmonique de Luxembourg, Musikkollegium Winterthur, Deutsches Symphonie Orchester Berlin, and Orchestra della Toscana. He has often conducted the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Melbourne Symphony, Tasmanian Symphony and Auckland Philharmonia, and engagements in the US have included those with the Utah Symphony and Asheville Symphony Orchestras.

During his tenure as Chief Conductor his many wide-ranging performances with the Staatsorchester Rheinische Philharmonie have encompassed programmes of Ades, Beethoven, Bartók, Britten, Berio, Brahms, Dvorak, Haydn, John Williams, Kodály, Mahler, Mozart, Prokofiev, and many more. Together Garry and the orchestra made their Amsterdam Concertgebouw debut in 2018, resulting in an immediate reinvitation.

An experienced opera conductor Garry Walker has conducted David McVicar's acclaimed new production of Britten *The Turn of the Screw* and Raskatov *A Dog's Heart* for English National Opera, Cimarosa *The Secret Marriage* for Scottish Opera, Janacek *The Cunning Little Vixen* and the critically acclaimed world premiere of Sawyer *The Skating Rink* for Garsington Opera, the world première of Stuart MacRae's opera *The Assassin*

Tree and Britten *Curlew River* for the Edinburgh International Festival and the McRae and Poulenc *La Voix Humaine* for the Linbury Studio (Royal Opera House). For Opera North he has conducted *Billy Budd*, *Gianni Schicchi/The Rite of Spring* double-bill and Martinů *The Greek Passion*. On the continent he has conducted *The Curlew River* for Lyon Opera, and a new production by Calixto Beito of Hosokawa *Hanjo* at the Ruhr Triennale.

For the 21/22 season he will conduct new productions of *Carmen* and *Rigoletto* as well as concert performances with the orchestra including Mahler 2.

Amongst the many international soloists with whom Garry Walker has collaborated are Maxim Vengerov, Sarah Chang, Jonas Kaufmann, Truls Mørk, Mischa Maisky, James Ehnes, David Geringas and Branford Marsalis.

His discography includes works by Havergal Brian and Matthew Taylor on Toccata Classics, Edward Harper on Delphian and Dvorak on Sony.

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