

Paul McCreesh

Conductor



"Friday's was the most enjoyable Minnesota Orchestra concert this season... Overseeing it all with insight, energy and charisma was McCreesh."

Star Tribune

Paul McCreesh is the founder and Artistic Director of the Gabrieli Consort & Players which he established in 1982 and with whom he has toured world-wide and made many award-winning recordings. McCreesh is well-known for the energy and passion that he brings to his music-making, and is especially enthusiastic about working with young musicians and broadening access to classical music; he works regularly with youth orchestras and choirs and is active in building new educational initiatives whenever possible.

Recent and upcoming highlights include his return to Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, a return to the St Paul Chamber Orchestra to conduct Handel's Messiah, a programme of Parry and Mendelssohn with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, and Haydn's Creation with the Minnesota Orchestra, as well as performances with the Gävle Symphony Orchestra, the Georgian Chamber Orchestra and Cherubini's Requiem with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra at the Concertgebouw. McCreesh continues relationship with The Poznań Philharmonic Orchestra as their Principal Guest Conductor.

McCreesh has guest conducted many of the major orchestras across the globe, including most recently Casa da Música Baroque Orchestra & Choir, Kammerakademie Potsdam, Bamberger Symphoniker, Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Bremen Philharmonic, Prague Philharmonia, Arctic Chamber Orchestra, the Leipzig Gewandhaus, Bergen Philharmonic, Royal Northern Sinfonia, Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony, Japan Philharmonic, Hong Kong Philharmonic, Sydney Symphony, Verbier Festival orchestras, Basel Chamber Orchestra and Berlin Konzerthausorchester.

From 2013-2016 he was Principal Conductor and Artistic Adviser of the Gulbenkian Orchestra (Lisbon) with whom he conducted a wide range of music from the classical period through to the nineteenth and

twentieth century, focusing in particular on symphonic repertoire, oratorio and opera in concert, working closely with the world renowned Gulbenkian Choir.

McCreesh has established a strong reputation in the opera house and has conducted productions at the Teatro Real Madrid, Royal Danish Opera, Opera Comique, Vlaamse Opera and at the Verbier Festival, and most recently he conducted Britten's A Midsummer Night's Dream at Bergen Opera, and returned to Vlaamse Opera for a production of Idomeneo.

In 2010, McCreesh launched his own record label, Winged Lion, in collaboration with the Gabrieli Consort & Players, Signum Classics and the Wratislavia Cantans Festival, where he was Artistic Director between 2006 and 2012. To date they have made thirteen recordings, most recently Purcell's The Fairu Queen, released in spring 2020. Other highlights include Britten War Requiem (BBC Music Magazine Award 2014), Mendelssohn Elijah (Diapason d'Or Award 2013), Berlioz's gargantuan Grande Messe des Morts (BBC Award 2012), and a reworking of his earlier Gabrieli disc, A New Venetian Coronation 1595 (Gramophone Award 2013). McCreesh's most recent recording of The Dream of Gerontius, nominated for a Gramophone Award, was called "unquestionably a great recording" (BBC Music Magazine) and "stunning" (The Times).

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