



Garry Walker

Conductor

Scottish-born Garry Walker is currently Artistic Director of Conducting at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and Chief Conductor of the Staatsorchester Rheinische Philharmonie.

Garry studied cello (with Ralph Kirshbaum) and conducting at the Royal Northern College of Music, and was winner of the 1999 Leeds Conductors' Competition. He has held positions as Permanent Guest Conductor of Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Principal Guest Conductor of Royal Scottish National Orchestra, and Principal Conductor of Paragon Ensemble.

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 the Royal Northern Sinfonia, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra and Academy of St Martin in the Fields. With the SCO he has appeared at the St Magnus Festival and the Edinburgh Festival, with the ECO in Lisbon and the City of London Festival, and with ASMF at the Barbican's Mostly Mozart Festival. 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.

Orchestras that he has worked with outside of the UK include the Gothenburg Symphony, Dortmund Philharmoniker, Orchestra dell'Opera Roma, Orchestre Philharmonique de Luxembourg, Musikkollegium Winterthur, Deutsches Symphonie Orchester Berlin and Orchestra della Toscana. Further afield, he has often conducted the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Melbourne Symphony, Tasmanian Symphony and Auckland Philharmonia, as well in the US with the Utah Symphony and Asheville Symphony.

An experienced opera conductor, Garry Walker conducted Janacek's *The Cunning Little Vixen* for Garsington Opera in July 2014, where he returned in 2018 for the critically-acclaimed world premiere of Sawyer's *The Skating Rink*. He has conducted both Britten's *Curlew River* and the world première of Stuart MacRae's opera *The Assassin Tree* at the Edinburgh International Festival. He also conducted the MacRae at the Royal Opera House's Linbury Studio, David McVicar's much acclaimed new production of Britten's *The Turn of the Screw* and Raskatov's *A Dog's Heart* for English National Opera, Cimarosa's *The Secret Marriage* for Scottish Opera, Poulenc's *La Voix Humaine* at the Linbury Studio and his debut with Opera North conducting Britten's *Billy Budd*, where he returned in 2019 for a *Gianni Schicchi/The Rite of Spring* double-bill.

Outside the UK he has conducted *The Curlew River* for Lyon Opera, and a new production by Calixto Bieito of Hosokawa's *Hanjo* at the Ruhr Triennale.

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.

Recordings have included works by Havergal Brian and Matthew Taylor on Toccata Classics, Edward Harper on Delphian and Dvorak on Sony.

