



David Bates

Conductor

A graduate of the Royal Academy of Music and of the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis, David Bates initially embarked on a professional singing career before turning to directing/conducting. Inspired by his work with renowned conductors including Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Marc Minkowski, Andrea Marcon and Nicholas McGegan, and driven by a desire to articulate his own musical vision, he founded La Nuova Musica, a vocal and instrumental ensemble dedicated to the music of the Baroque and Classical periods.

Recent highlights include his debut with Komische Oper Berlin, conducting a new production by Damiano Michieletto of Gluck *Orfeo ed Euridice* and a revival of the very successful production (directed by Elisabeth Stöppler) of Handel *Il Trionfo del tempo e del disinganno* for Hannover Staatsoper. He will end the 21/22 season with performances of Handel *Alcina* for Glyndebourne Festival Opera where he will work alongside Jonathan Cohen conducting the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. Further ahead, his opera engagements include his debut with Opéra de Rouen Normandie and further productions with both Staatsoper Hannover and Komische Oper.

Directing from the harpsichord, David's previous opera productions include Robert Carsen's exuberant production of *Rinaldo* for Glyndebourne On Tour; Handel *Xerxes* at Iford Arts; Cesti *L'Oronoea* at the Innsbrucker Festwochen; Cavalli *La Calisto* for Cincinnati Opera (directed by Ted Huffman); James Darragh's production of *Iphigénie en Tauride* at the Teatro São Carlos in Lisbon; and Vivaldi *Il Farnace* with the Tony Award-winning theatre director Garry Hynes at the Spoleto Festival in the United States.

Now in their twelfth year, La Nuova Musica's engagements this season include appearances at the Wigmore Hall to perform Monteverdi *Vespers* and madrigals; London Handel Festival with Lucy Crowe; Bath MozartFest with Rachel Podger and Alec Frank-Gemmill; London Festival of Baroque Music; and a project with Iestyn Davies for the Halle and Brighton International Festivals. In 2015, David Bates and La Nuova Musica started their series of concert performances of Handel for the London Handel Festival. So far they have completed *Acis and Galatea*, *Berenice*, *Il Trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno*, *Il Duello Amatorioso*, *Apollo e Dafne*, *Orlando* and *Alcina*. They have yet to perform *Theodora*, *Ariodante* and *Rodelinda*.

The 2020/21 season saw the release of David Bates and La Nuova Musica's second album for Pentatone, 'Handel's Unsung Heroes' featuring Lucy Crowe, Iestyn Davies and Christine Rice. Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice*, their previous Pentatone album featuring Iestyn Davies, Sophie Bevan and Rebecca Bottone, was recorded live at St John's Smith Square in London and shortlisted for a 2020 Gramophone Award. La Nuova Musica's CDs for Harmonia Mundi, all of which have garnered outstanding reviews and received 'Le choix de France Musique' and Gramophone's 'Editor's Choice', including Handel *Dixit Dominus*, Charpentier and Carissimi *Histoires Sacrées*, Couperin *Leçons Ténébres* with Lucy Crowe and Elizabeth Watts, and Pergolesi *Stabat Mater*. As an assistant, he has worked with Emmanuelle Haïm (including Opera de Paris and Opera Zurich), Ivor Bolton (Teatro Real) and, at Glyndebourne, with William Christie and Laurence Cummings.

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