



## 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. He founded La Nuova Musica in 2007, a vocal and instrumental ensemble dedicated to the music of the Baroque and Classical periods. Their most recent highlight was a semi-staged performance of Purcell *Dido and Aeneas* at the 2022 BBC Proms, described as *a superbly evocative night* in The Times and *a highly shaped, highly articulated performance, a musical tour de force that filled the hall* in Opera Today.

Highlights this season include his debut with the Orchestra of the Eighteenth Century in the Netherlands; conducting Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea* at The Grange Festival with La Nuova Musica and returning to the Komische Oper Berlin for Handel *Hercules*. Looking ahead his plans include further titles at the Komische Oper Berlin and Opéra de Rouen Normandie and his debut at the Theater an der Wien. With LNM he will appear at the London Handel Festival, continuing their series started in 2015, of works by Handel where, 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*; and a Mozart Concert Arias programme at Wigmore Hall with Lucy Crowe, as one of his many appearances there.

Last season he conducted *Alcina* at Staatsoper Hannover, where he also conducted a new production of Monteverdi *Orfeo*; made his debut with Opéra de Rouen Normandie with Handel *Serse* and conducted a new production of Handel *Saul* at the Komische Oper Berlin. He explored Mozart and Beethoven with the Munich Symphony Orchestra and conducted Monteverdi madrigals and motets at Wigmore Hall.

Other past highlights include a new production by Damiano Michieletto in 2022 of Gluck *Orfeo ed Euridice* at the Komische Oper, prompting Fredrik Hanssen in Der Tagesspiegel to write *[Bates] can also draw out real beauty from Gluck's score with a stylistic 'all-rounder' group like the Orchestra of the Komische Oper, which produces velvety sonorities, and heady gracefulness*; a revival of the very successful production directed by Elisabeth Stöppler of Handel *Il Trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno* for Staatsoper Hannover and Handel *Alcina* for Glyndebourne Festival with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment.

Directing from the harpsichord, David's previous opera productions have included *Rinaldo* for Glyndebourne on Tour; Cesti *Oronthea* at the Innsbrucker Festwochen; Cavalli *La Calisto* for Cincinnati Opera; *Iphigénie en Tauride* at the Teatro Nacional de São Carlos in Lisbon and Vivaldi *Farnace* with the Tony Award-winning theatre director Garry Hynes at the Spoleto Festival in the United States.

Together with LNM, David has made award-winning recordings for Pentatone and Harmonia Mundi. Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice* on Pentatone, featuring Iestyn Davies and Sophie Bevan being shortlisted for a 2020 Gramophone Award, and

their CDs for Harmonia Mundi having received 'Le choix de France Musique' and Gramophone 'Editor's Choice'.

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