

Benjamin Bayl



Benjamin Bayl's skill and flair in working with period instrument ensembles, modern orchestras and opera houses has led to collaborations with many notable figures, not least Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Iván Fischer, Ivor Bolton, Harry Bicket and Richard Hickox, to name a few.

Recent engagements with the Symfoniorkester Norrlandsoperan (Bach's Christmas Oratorio and Handel's Messiah), Orquesta Sinfónica del Principado de Asturias, Aalborg Symfoniorkester and The Hanover Band have all resulted in immediate re-invitations for 2011/2012 season. Other current season highlights include his debut with Opéra National de Lorraine in concert, and invitations to the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, Wroclaw Baroque Orchestra, Sønderjyllands Symfoniorkester and Gävle Symfoniorkester.

Last season he conducted a critically acclaimed Ariodante for English Touring Opera, which followed his debut with Opera Australia (a new production of Orlando). He also made his debut with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and directed Arne's Judgment of Paris at the Wigmore Hall. Having conducted Handel's Brockes Passion at the Wroclaw Festival in Poland, Benjamin will return there to conduct next season. His next opera projects will be L'incoronazione di Poppea in Copenhagen for the Nordic Early Opera Network, and Gluck's Il parnaso confuso at London's South Bank Centre.

Contemporary music also features in Benjamin's repertoire. He made his first commercial disc as a conductor, recording works of Hindemith with the Britten Sinfonia for Signum Classics, which was awarded five stars in the BBC Music Magazine. He also conducted the European premiere of Sir John Tavener's *Lament for Jerusalem* with the Orchestra of the City and has conducted works by Einojuhani Rautavaara, Elliott Carter, Judith Weir and Jonathan Dove.

He founded and conducts the dynamic period instrument ensemble, The Saraband Consort. They recently made their Wigmore Hall debut and appeared in various festivals including the 'Martes Musicales' Vitoria and 'Aste Nagusia' Bilbao Festivals.

Benjamin was Assistant Conductor to Iván Fischer and the Budapest Festival Orchestra, Assistant Artistic Director to Paul McCreesh and the Gabrieli Consort, and has collaborated with Daniel Harding and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, and Emmanuelle Haïm with Le concert d'Astrée at the Opéra National de Paris. He studied at King's College Cambridge, where he was Organ Scholar. He is an alumnus of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, National Opera Studio, Schola Cantorum Basel and The Royal Academy of Music where he studied conducting with Colin Metters, Sir Colin Davis and George Hurst on the Sir Charles Mackerras Scholarship.

For further information please see: www.benjaminbayl.com

2010/11 season only. Please contact HarrisonParrott if you wish to edit this biography.