

Jason Thornton

Conductor - Biography



Jason Thornton is one of Britain's finest young conductors. As Music Director of Bath's resident professional orchestra Bath Philharmonia, he is artistically responsible for one of the largest and most respected professional organisations of its type in the South West of England. With this orchestra he became the world's youngest conductor to have performed all Mahler's symphonic output.

He has also worked with many of Britain's finest professional orchestras, youth orchestras and choral ensembles including the Royal Philharmonic, City of London Sinfonia, London Mozart Players, Halle Orchestra, English Northern Philharmonia, Royal Academy Symphony Orchestra, National Schools Symphony Orchestra, London Philharmonic Choir, Philharmonia Chorus and Bournemouth Symphony Chorus.

Abroad he has worked with the Beijing Symphony Orchestra, Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, North West Symphony Orchestra (USA), East Oregon Symphony Orchestra, Cyprus Chamber Orchestra, and Jykvaskyla Sinfonia (Finland).

He regularly works with Festivals and venues throughout Britain, including nine performances at the Bath International Music Festival since 1997, Last Night of the Kenwood House Proms with City of London Sinfonia and recently his debut at the Hall for Cornwall with the London Mozart Players and Natalie Clein. Recent performances have included collaborations with Nicola Benedetti, Carlos Bonnell, Claire Booth, Isobel Buchannon, Joseph Calleja, Natalie Clein, Michael Collins, Sarah Connolly, Lynne Dawson, Peter Donohoe, Fodens Brass Band, Tim Hugh, Sumi Jo, Tasmin Little, Joanna Macgregor, Rosa Mannion, Jennifer Pike, Sir Willard White, the Jette Parker young artists from the Royal Opera House and the jazz singer Clare Teal. Jason has also worked extensively with actors including Timothy West, Jenny Agutter, Chris Harris and Stephanie Cole. In 2009 he conducted the first Chinese performances of Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* in Beijing and Shanghai, began a Beethoven Piano Concerto cycle with Peter Donohoe and gave concerts with Jennifer Pike, Ruth Palmer and Crispian Steele Perkins.

During the 2009-10 season plans include his debuts with the Kaposvar Symphony Orchestra, Hungary in Schubert Symphony No.9 and the Turkish National Symphony Orchestra with Sir Willard White in a tour of Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast*. In Britain plans include a staged production of Walton's *Façade* with Isobel Buchannon and Jonathan Hyde, planned tours with both the English Chamber Orchestra and Manchester Camerata, Berlioz *Grande Messe des Morts* with the Birmingham Philharmonic, and a busy season with Bath Philharmonia including performances with Peter Donohoe, Nicola Benedetti and Marc Andre Hamelin.