

Biography: Peter Selwyn

Peter Selwyn is an internationally acclaimed conductor who has worked at some of the world's great opera houses.

Over the past 20 years, he has conducted more than 50 operas worldwide, from London to Australia and Budapest to Singapore, for major companies including Welsh National Opera and Opera North, working at the Royal Opera and Bayreuth Festival and a wide range of European companies.

From 1999 to 2005, Peter Selwyn was Kapellmeister and Head of Music at the Staatstheater Nürnberg, leading to important roles at the top opera houses of Britain and Germany. This included three seasons at Bayreuth as assistant to Adam Fischer and Giuseppe Sinopoli on the millennial Ring Cycle and assisting at the Hamburgische Staatsoper.

Operas conducted include: in Germany, *Peter Grimes*, *Rigoletto*, *La Traviata*, *Carmen*, *La Bohème*, *Orfeo ed Euridice*, *Iphigénie en Tauride*, *Hänsel und Gretel*, *Die lustigen Weiber von Windsor* and the major Mozart operas at the Staatstheater Nürnberg, *A Little Night Music* at the Stadttheater Fürth; across the UK, *Carmen* Welsh National Opera, *Fidelio*, *Romeo et Juliette* Opera North, *Hänsel und Gretel*, *La Rondine* Opera Holland Park, *Jenufa*, *La Cenerentola*, *Emperor of Atlantis* English Touring Opera, *Die Walküre*, Berwick Festival Opera, *The Rape of Lucretia* Grimeborn Festival, *Madam Butterfly*, *Die Zauberflöte* European Chamber Opera, *Don Giovanni* Pimlico Opera, *Treemonisha* Pegasus Opera and *La Gioconda*, *Macbeth*, *La Forza del Destino* and *Die Fledermaus*; in Hungary, *The Rape of Lucretia* for the European Opera Centre and *Salome* for the Singapore Lyric Opera.

During his career he conducted numerous world premières, such as *Hear Our Voice* by Jonathan Dove in London, Nuremberg and at the Prague State Opera. Other premières include operas by Alec Roth, David Knotts and Todd Macneal in London and Australia for the English National Opera's Baylis Programme; *The Uninvited* by Julian Grant at Blackheath Concert Halls *Jane Eyre* by Julia Gomelskaya for London Children's Ballet.

His extensive symphonic repertoire has led to work with numerous orchestras and ensembles, among them: Nürnberger Philharmoniker - Wiener Symphoniker - Orchestra dell' Teatro Comunale di Bologna - City of London Sinfonia - Orchestra of Opera North - Orchestra of Welsh National Opera - Southbank Sinfonia - Aurora Orchestra - Orpheus Sinfonia - National Youth Orchestra of Scotland.

As assistant conductor Peter Selwyn has worked at the Royal Opera, English National Opera, Glyndebourne, at European opera houses including Hamburg, Oslo and Strasbourg, at the Aldeburgh and Bregenz Festivals, and on opera

projects with the BBCSO at the Proms and with the CBSO. In that capacity he worked with conductors such as Sir Andrew Davis, Sir Mark Elder, Sir Richard Armstrong, Paul Daniel, David Parry, Frederic Chaslin and Günter Neuhold. In Nuremberg he assisted GMD Philippe Auguin on productions including *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, *Meistersinger*, *Fidelio*, *Salome* and *Pelléas et Mélisande*.

He is co-founder and Artistic Director of the Internationales KammermusikFestival Nürnberg, for whom he has conducted *The Rape of Lucretia*, which was broadcast by Bayerischer Rundfunk, *The Turn of the Screw*, *Owen Wingrave*, *Noye's Fludde*, *Dido and Aeneas*, *The Soldier's Tale*, *das babylonexperiment* (Matthew King) and the premiere of *Schau nicht zurück*, *Orfeo* by Stefan Hakenberg, in a co-production with the Internationale Gluck Festspiele.

He is closely associated with Opera North, for who he has conducted *Fidelio* and *Romeo et Juliette*, and a series of children's concerts; he has also assisted there on *Otello*, *Der Rosenkavalier* and most recently *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Osud*. For Berwick Festival Opera he is Music Director of *The Ring Saga* (Jonathan Dove's innovative reduction of the Ring Cycle). *Die Walküre* was performed to great acclaim, and further instalments are planned, as well as a new arrangement of *Tristan und Isolde*, in conjunction with the Royal Northern Sinfonia. Other recent and current projects include a highly successful *Rape of Lucretia*, which opened the 2018 Grimeborn Festival, and has already been nominated for an OFFIE award, and assisting Anthony Negus on *Der fliegende Holländer* for Longborough Festival Opera.

Earlier in his career he joined the music staff of ENO before moving to the Royal Opera, where he assisted and played for many of the world's greatest conductors and singers. He also worked as répétiteur for Scottish Opera, Almeida Opera, Music Theatre Wales and the Batignano Festival in Italy and as music director on a number of projects with Opera Genesis at ROH, National Opera Studio, ENO Studio and Baylis Programme. Now a Professor at the Royal College of Music and Guest Coach on the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme at the Royal Opera, he is also in demand as course leader at various summer schools including Dartington and New London Music Society.

Peter spent a year at the Mannheim / Heidelberg Hochschule für Musik before going to St. John's College, Cambridge, to read Modern Languages. He then went to the Royal Academy of Music to study piano as a postgraduate, subsequently studying conducting with David Parry.

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