



WAYNE MARSHALL, Conductor

British conductor, organist and pianist Wayne Marshall is Chief Conductor of the WDR Funkhausorchester Cologne, and Organist and Associate Artist of the Bridgewater Hall, Manchester.

He was appointed Principal Guest Conductor of the Orchestra Sinfonia di Milano Giuseppe Verdi in 2007 and is a celebrated interpreter of Gershwin, Bernstein and other 20th century American composers.

Wayne continues to play a key role in leading the ‘Bernstein 100’ celebrations into the 18/19 season with the rarely-performed White House Cantata in Utrecht with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonie and an all-Bernstein programme including his Third Symphony ‘Kaddish’ with Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse. Other plans include NDR Radio Philharmonie and the Real Group, his return to Rotterdam Philharmonic for its New Year’s Concert celebration and a concert version of Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess with the Prague Radio Philharmonic. He also conducts a Frank Zappa project with SWR as well as returns to Seattle, Vancouver, Antwerp and Bern Symphony Orchestras and l’Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano Giuseppe Verdi. In the UK he conducts with the BBC Singers including a live broadcast on BBC Radio 3, Chineke! on tour to various summer festivals and returns to the Royal Festival Hall for a special organ recital.

Highlights last season included Bernstein’s Mass with Orchestre de Paris at the Philharmonie de Paris, a variety of shows entitled ‘Happy Birthday, Lenny!’ with the Munich Rundfunkorchester at the Prinzregententheater and an all-Bernstein programme with the Zurich Philharmonic. Other notable performances include with the Czech and Oslo Philharmonic Orchestras and he works regularly with Chineke! – Europe’s first majority Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Orchestra including their inaugural concert in 2015 and most recently at the Queen Elizabeth Hall as part of the Africa Utopia Festival in Summer 2018.

An experienced opera conductor, recent highlights include his debut at the Dresden Semperoper for Great Gatsby by John Harbison and Jake Heggie’s Dead Man Walking at Montreal Opera, which lead to an immediate re-invitation to conduct Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess. He has also conducted Weill’s Mahagonny and Bernstein’s Candide at the Deutsche Staatsoper, Berlin. As a renowned interpreter of Gershwin, he has also conducted Porgy and Bess at Opera Comique in Paris, Washington and Dallas Operas. In 2019 he will be conducting Bernstein’s Wonderful Town with Het Gelders Orkest and in 2020, Porgy and Bess at the Theater An Der Wien with Cape Town Opera.

As an organ recitalist, he has an exceptionally varied repertoire and performs worldwide. Recent recitals include Royal Festival Hall, Royal Albert Hall, Bridgewater Hall, Wiener Konzerthaus, Davies Hall, Lotte Hall, Three Choirs Festival, Dortmund Konzerthaus and at the inaugural organ concert at the Philharmonie de Paris. As pianist/director and organist he has performed with many orchestras including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Swedish and Munich Radio Symphony orchestras and the Berlin Philharmonic under Sir Simon Rattle and Claudio Abbado.

Wayne is a favourite with audiences at the BBC Proms and regularly appears as both performer and guest presenter, including the First Night in 1997 and the First Night in 2008. He performed at the Ten Pieces Prom in 2016 and in 1998 he conducted Porgy and Bess to celebrate the Gershwin centenary.

He has recorded extensively for numerous major labels and receive an ECHO (Deutscher Schallplattenpreis) award for his Gershwin Songbook CD, his latest disc with Chineke! on Orchid Classics will be released in 2019/20. In 2004 he received an Honorary Doctorate from Bournemouth University and became a Fellow of the Royal College of Music in 2010. In 2016 he received the Golden Jubilee Award, presented by the Barbados Government for his services to Music. In May 2018 he became Ambassador of the London Music Fund.