



National
Symphony
Orchestra



Press Release – 05 Nov 2018

Paul Bateman appointed NSO's Principal Conductor

The National Symphony Orchestra have announced that Paul Bateman, known not only for his extensive conducting experience, but also for his world-class arranging work, is joining them as Principal Conductor as from November 2018. Paul Bateman will be taking on the role at a time of renewed energy and direction for the orchestra, building on the NSO's rapidly increasing national and international profile.

Paul Bateman:

"I could not be more delighted to become Principal Conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra. I've known and worked with many of their members for many years and I feel that together we will all be very keen to make music of the highest standard. I also know that we share an enthusiasm for making music that will become abundantly clear to audiences around the world. I look forward to taking the orchestra forward to ever greater heights of achievement."

Artistic Director of NSO Justin Pearson:

"I am thrilled that Paul Bateman has agreed to become NSO's new Principal Conductor. He joins the orchestra at a particularly exciting time, when very many projects are coming to fruition. Paul possesses a wide range of musical skills, bringing a vast wealth of experience and a firmly established international reputation. Our professional relationship has grown alongside a strong personal friendship over many years. The musical versatility required by NSO with its hugely varied musical projects means that Paul is perfectly placed to build on the impressive legacy created by Anthony Inglis, meaning a seamless transition is possible. The appointment has met

with universal approval by members of the orchestra and we look forward to performing abroad and working in the studios here in London, as well as continuing to give popular concerts for which the orchestra is closely associated."

Matthew Scrivener, NSO's leader:

"Paul is a genuine pleasure to work for as is not only an excellent conductor, but also a great musician."

Paul Bateman has conducted the London Symphony, Royal Philharmonic, BBC Concert and Russian National orchestras amongst many others. Paul Bateman has conducted for a whole host of celebrated artists including Sir Bryn Terfel, Jose Carreras and Sir Paul McCartney, and has an enviable reputation as an orchestrator and arranger, most notably on recordings for Lesley Garrett and Daniel Hope.

For more info or interviews please contact Justin@nso.co.uk

Notes to Editors:

The **National Symphony Orchestra** is one of the longest-established and most versatile professional freelance orchestras working in Britain today. It is increasingly performing many regional concerts and making recordings of classical repertoire under the baton of Russian conductor Rimma Sushanskaya, whilst working with NSO's newly-appointed Principal Guest Conductor, John Andrews. Foreign touring to Korea and China is currently planned for 2019. It has an impressive recorded legacy as well as a busy diary of live concert performances. The NSO is admired for both its versatility, its ability to communicate, connecting with audiences with commitment and passion.

In early 2018, the orchestra topped the classical charts for weeks in a collaboration between presenter Alan Titchmarsh and composer Debbie Wiseman named "The Glorious Garden". In 2017, NSO again occupied top spot with a recording of new music in Debbie Wiseman's "Musical Zodiac". The recent release of the film "Edie" starring Sheila Hancock features NSO on its soundtrack. NSO return to Abbey Road this November with Debbie Wiseman and Stephen Fry.

In May 2018, NSO toured to Spain with Katherine Jenkins and Alfie Boe and in June NSO was proud to play at the ceremony marking the handover to the nation of the new DNRC Rehabilitation Centre in Loughborough in the presence of the Duke of Cambridge and Prime Minister Teresa May.

In the Autumn of 2018, conductor Anthony Inglis and the NSO returned to Cunard's RMS Queen Mary 2 for the latest in a series of annual, and invariably sold-out, *Last Night of the Cunard Proms Cruise* performances. The NSO is pleased that this relationship with Cunard continues to flourish. The orchestra enjoys a special relationship with Warner Leisure Hotels, performing a series of Prom concerts through 2018. www.nso.co.uk

Artistic Director: Justin Pearson

Leader: Matthew Scrivener

Paul Bateman studied piano, organ, singing and cello at the Guildhall School of Music in London, and began his musical life as an accompanist, chamber musician and opera répétiteur. He has since conducted recordings with the Royal Philharmonic, Philharmonia, London Symphony, Munich Symphony, Vienna Symphony, City of Prague Philharmonic Orchestras and has given concerts with the BBC Concert, Malmo Symphony, Seville Symphony, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Royal Scottish National, Dallas Symphony, Russian National, Tokyo Philharmonic and Ulster Orchestras.

Paul conducted and orchestrated Lesley Garrett's albums *A Soprano in Hollywood* and *A North Country Lass* and his orchestrations also appear on many of her television programmes. He conducts film music concerts all over the world and has recorded many film music albums for Silva Screen Records in Prague. He has conducted over thirty albums of film music including two volumes of Hitchcock film scores, albums of the music of Bernard Herrmann, Maurice Jarre, John Williams and Ennio Morricone, and collections of Korngold, Steiner and Tiomkin. His total discography now includes over seventy recordings, many of which feature daily on Classic FM. Paul conducted the Philharmonia Orchestra for the album *Idylls and Elegies* – the music of John Jeffreys and a new recording of John Jeffreys' *Violin Concerto*, yet to be released.

Paul first appeared at Sir Bryn Terfel's Faenol Festival in 2000 and was invited to return in 2002. He conducted the Norwegian Radio Orchestra for the Nobel Peace Prize concerts in Oslo from 2000 to 2002, accompanying a dazzling array of international artists including Sir Bryn Terfel, Barbara Hendricks, Jessye Norman, Santana and Sir Paul McCartney.

Paul Bateman's association with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra goes back several years, having conducted their 'Filmharmonic' and 'Film Music Gala' concerts at the Royal Albert Hall for ten consecutive years, many concerts in the UK and a tour of Korea. He also made two recordings of Filmharmonic with them and for Sony Classics, recordings with violinists Eijin Nomura and Vanessa-Mae.

For Sarah Brightman he has conducted recordings of his own arrangements with the LSO and RPO and gives concerts with her all over the world. In 2009, 2010 and 2014 Paul conducted summer concerts in Malta for tenor Joseph Calleja with the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra, the most recent with Sir Bryn Terfel as his guest.

2013 saw the beginning of a fruitful relationship with Deutsche Grammophon when he worked as an arranger on albums for Piotr Beczala and Daniel Hope, who also commissioned Paul to write a suite for violin and orchestra based on the songs of Kurt Weill and a suite of Gershwin songs. In November 2013 he conducted for José Carreras in Japan.

Recent albums with the RPO and LSO include the music of Oliver Davis (*Flight, Dance and Liberty*), and a new recording for Sarah Brightman. With the City of Prague Philharmonic he has also conducted the début albums for sopranos Joanne McGahon and Margaret Keys. Most recently he conducted the Czech Philharmonic and Royal Philharmonic orchestras for Sir Bryn Terfel's new album 'Dreams and Songs', which also features his new arrangements.

www.paul-bateman.com