



Henry Kennedy

Conductor

British-born conductor Henry Kennedy has recently completed the world-renowned Master of Arts course at the Royal Academy of Music under the tutelage of Sian Edwards. He has also been mentored by Colin Metters over a number of years. Before his conducting studies commenced, Henry studied clarinet at the RAM as an undergraduate, gaining a huge amount of experience as an orchestral player, chamber musician and soloist.

Eager to conduct a wide variety of repertoire, Henry established the Resonate Symphony Orchestra in 2017, and it has since grown to become one of London's leading young ensembles. As music director, he has curated and conducted a number of diverse programmes in some of London's most prominent concert halls, from Bach's double piano concerti to Shostakovich's monumental *Leningrad Symphony*. Henry has also conducted the orchestra of the Deutsche Oper in Berlin; the Berlin Sinfonietta and the Royal Academy of Music Symphony and Opera Orchestras.

In 2020, Henry was selected as semi-finalist for both the Toscanini and Karajan competitions, to be held in Spring 2021. Before the Covid-19 pandemic struck, Henry was due to conduct Purcell's *Dido & Aeneas* at the Aparte Theatre in Moscow, and Zemlinsky's *Lyric Symphony* and Schoenberg's *Erwartung* (with Rachel Nicholls and the Resonate Symphony Orchestra) in St John's Smith Square, London.

Henry has assisted and been mentored by conductors including Christian Thielemann, Sir Mark Elder, John Wilson, Anthony Negus, Jac van Steen, Edward Gardner and Marin Alsop in the recording studio, opera house and concert hall. He regularly attends orchestral and operatic master classes around the world, most recently with David Zinman, Robert Trevino and Martyn Brabbins.

Henry is particularly passionate about performing unfamiliar Russian music in Europe, including composers such as Glinka, Balakirev and Borodin. He is also a strong advocate for British music, including works by Butterworth, Elgar, Vaughan Williams, Delius, Tippett and Bax.

Since 2014, Henry has been a committee member and events host of the prestigious Wagner Society of England, which has the largest membership of any Wagner Society in the world. Most recently Henry has been appointed to the Council of Music Preserved, a charitable organisation that maintains over 18,000 records in its collection.

In his spare time, he enjoys cycling around his hometown in the Shropshire Hills and reading Russian literature.