

# jonathon heyward

conductor



Photo: Jeremy Ayres Fischer

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Jonathon Heyward is forging a career as one of the most exciting conductors of his generation. Grand Prix winner of the 2015 Besançon International Competition at the age of 23, Jonathon was recipient of the Dudamel Conducting Fellowship with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra in 2018. He made his debut with the orchestra for three major concerts at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles (soloist: Hilary Hahn) to great acclaim, as reviewed in the LA Times: “A steady 25-year-old

hand leads the L.A. Phil and Hilary Hahn through a riveting Disney Hall concert”. In addition, he will complete a three-year tenure as Assistant Conductor of the Hallé Orchestra in July 2019.

In Europe, 2017/2018 saw him conduct his first subscription series concert with the Hallé, and soloist Benjamin Grosvenor, at the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester. He made debuts with the Birmingham Opera Company, premiering Giorgio Battistelli’s new opera, Wake;

with the Orchestre de l'Opéra de Rouen for a tour in France; with the Symfonieorkest Vlaanderen for a series of concerts at the most prestigious halls across Belgium; with the Orchestre National de Bordeaux-Aquitaine, Orchestre National des Pays de Loire, and the Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne. In 2018/2019, he has been invited to conduct the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, Nordwestdeutsche Philharmonie, Staatskapelle Hallé, Wüttembergisches Kammerorchester and Orquestra Sinfónica Portuguesa from Teatro Nacional de São Carlos in Lisbon, the Osaka Symphony Orchestra in Japan and, in the USA, the Seattle Symphony Orchestra as well as the Spoleto festival's production of Porgy and Bess in 2020.

Prior to these engagements, Jonathon Heyward conducted the St. Petersburg Symphony Orchestra, Basel Symphony Orchestra, Prague Symphony Orchestra, Panda Wind Orchestra in Japan, the Philharmonie Zuidnederland, Orchestre National de Lille, the Orchestre National de Lorraine, Chineke! Orchestra in the UK, and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra for a production of Kurt Weill's Lost in the Stars, as part of a Conducting Fellowship

supported by the Kurt Weill Foundation.

Originally a cellist, Jonathon commenced his conducting studies at the Boston Conservatory in the class of Andrew Altenbach. He went on to occupy the position of Assistant Conductor for both their opera department and the Boston Opera Collaborative from 2012 to 2014, where he worked on productions including La Bohème, Zauberflöte and The Rape of Lucretia. Jonathon became the youngest ever semi-finalist at the Blue Danube International Opera Conducting Competition in 2013. From 2014 to 2016, he was Associate-Director of the Hampsstead Garden Opera Company in London, whilst furthering his education with postgraduate studies with Sian Edwards at the Royal Academy of Music, from where he graduated in June 2016.

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### **s e a s o n 2 0 1 8 / 1 9**

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