**Eamonn Dougan**

Conductor

*“under conductor Eamonn Dougan [Britten Sinfonia] created an intensity of atmosphere that made one wonder why this music [MacMillan Seven Last Words] would ever have needed visuals.”* (4\* The Guardian)

A person in a suit

Description automatically generatedEamonn Dougan is an inspirational communicator with a wide-ranging repertoire and is a renowned vocal coach and baritone. *“Dougan and his team [Britten Sinfonia] displayed masterly control… Singing without blemish; playing that leapt straight from the heart: here was a sterling performance*” (The Times - MacMillan *Seven Last Words*); Eamonn is Associate Conductor of The Sixteen, founding Director of Britten Sinfonia Voices, Music Director of the Thomas Tallis Society, and Chief Conductor for Jersey Chamber Orchestra.

Alongside Eamonn’s regular conducting, upcoming projects include debuts with: Chorwerk Ruhr in a programme celebrating the 400th anniversary of Byrd, Polish Radio Choir & Orchestra (Wroclaw Philharmonic Choir), a Christmas tour with Ars Nova and conducting Handel *Messiah* in two performances at Auditorio Nacional de Madrid with Orquesta Barroca de Sevilla and Chamber Choir Ireland, Bach *St Matthew Passion* and a new project with soloist Natalie Clein*.* Eamonn returns to Cumnock Tryst to conduct its Cumnock Tryst Festival Chorus in the world premiere of Phillip Cooke’s *Gloria* (commissioned especially for the Tryst), and Lambert’s *Rio Grande* – in 2024 Eamonn will return to conduct MacMillan’s *All the Hills and Vales Along* for the Tryst’s tenth anniversary. Other returns include forging a new young artist scheme for Chamber Choir Ireland, mentoring and leading Genesis Sixteen, and conducting The Royal Academy of Music in two concerts from its new season *Sounding Isle* series (Purcell).

Recent highlights have included earning a distinguished Diapason d’Or for the first disc in a 12-album series of Morales’ complete Masses and Magnificats with De Profundis on Hyperion - “*We can feel confident that the future of this bold project is in the best possible hands.”* (Gramophone); advising on and directing performances for the Royal Academy of Music’s Bach *the European* series; his debut with English National Opera for Haydn *Seven Last Words of our Saviour on the Cross* “*This was a triumph. Dougan clearly loves the work and brought a real sense of style to the orchestra while finding lightness from the large chorus*” (Seen and Heard), Handel *Semele* at Sibelius Summer Academy and Handel *Acis and Galatea* for Ryedale Festival Opera, for which he was invited back to conduct this year’s production of *Venus & Adonis*.

Notable successes have included the world premiere of James MacMillan *All the Hills and Vales Along* at the Cumnock Tryst Festival with Ian Bostridge, conducting the off-stage chorus for Berlioz *L’Enfance du Christ* with The Hallé, Britten Sinfonia Voices and Genesis Sixteen for BBC Proms 2019 at the Royal Albert Hall. He assisted Sir Mark Elder for Opera Rara’s world premiere concert and recording of Puccini *Le Villi* with London Philharmonic Orchestra and their recent recording *Zingari*. Eamonn directed The Sixteen’s highly acclaimed tour of Australia and Singapore, *Messiah* with Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León and Cappella Amsterdam, made his Spanish debut with the Bilbao Orkestra Sinfonikoa and Real Orquesta Sinfónica de Sevilla, and in Paris at the La Seine Musicale with renowned ensemble Accentus and in Copenhagen with Danish National Symphony Orchestra, VokalEnsemblet and KoncertKor. Eamonn directed De Profundis on their Hyperion release Juan Esquivel’s *Missa Hortus Conclusus* to critical acclaim: “*passionate singing to create an extremely enjoyable and atmospheric recording*." (Gramophone)

Founder of Britten Sinfonia Voices, he has conducted the ensemble in several world premieres including Sir John Tavener *Flood of Beauty*, Ēriks Ešenvalds *Aqua*, Nico Muhly *Looking Forward* for the Britten Sinfonia’s 20th birthday and the choral premiere of Jóhann Jóhannsson *Orphée* at the Barbican. Other projects with the Britten Sinfonia have included Bach*St John Passion*, MacMillan St *Luke Passion* and *Seven Last Words*, Britten *Curlew River*, Birtwistle *Yan Tan Tethera*, *Possibly Colliding: Session Six* and a programme of Stravinsky & Mozartat Milton Court as part of the Barbican’s Esa-Pekka Salonen composer focus. He has assisted various conductors including Sir James MacMillan, Martyn Brabbins, Andreas Delfs, Adam Fischer and Sir Mark Elder.

Eamonn has conducted BBC Singers, Narodowe Forum Muzyki Choir, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Orquesta y Coro de la Comunidad de Madrid (ORCAM), Irish Baroque Orchestra, Corinthian Chamber Orchestra, Royal Northern Sinfonia, Trondheim Barokk, Wroclaw Philharmonic Chamber Choir, Orchestra North East and London Chamber Orchestra. Eamonn curated and conducted a ‘*A Weekend of Excessively Good Taste*’ (French Baroque) at Kings Place, London and his developing opera work has included *Dido and Aeneas*, Mozart *La finta giardiniera,* and *Cosi fan tutte* withRyedale Festival Opera.

Eamonn has a highly successful five-disc Polish Baroque series with The Sixteen. The first disc, music by Bartlomiej Pekiel, was met with widespread critical acclaim and was shortlisted for a Gramophone Award (‘*Richly dramatic’* – The Observer; ‘*A delightful performance’* – BBC Music Magazine). Subsequent discs in the series include *The Blossoming Vine*, music by Gorczycki, and *Helper and Protector*. The fifth disc, music by Marcin Mielczewski, was released in 2017. “*The sound is radiant throughout and well balanced … each work is finely shaped by director Eamonn Dougan*.” (Limelight Magazine).

Eamonn is consultant coach for the Royal Academy of Music and a Visiting Professor to the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London, where he teaches ensemble singing and directs the Guildhall Consort. As Associate Director of The Sixteen, Eamonn also leads the Genesis Sixteen courses as tutor and mentor. In the Autumn 2020 term, Eamonn was Acting Director of Music - Choir of The Queen’s College, Oxford. Eamonn read music at New College, Oxford, before continuing his vocal and conducting studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Eamonn Dougan is managed worldwide by Percius. [www.percius.co.uk](http://www.percius.co.uk)

*“Eamonn Dougan conducted the Britten Sinfonia and Britten Sinfonia Voices in a radiant performance.”*

*Richard Morrison, The Times*

This biography is valid for use until January 2024.

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