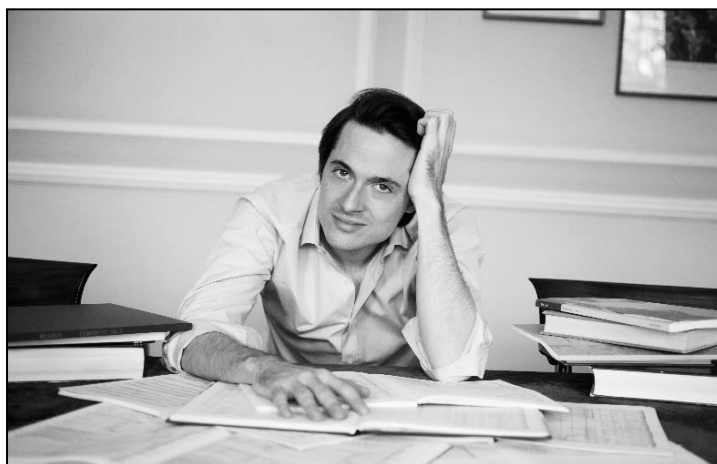


## Biography

### **Leo McFall**

Conductor

[www.leo-mcfall.com](http://www.leo-mcfall.com)



Leo McFall is building a substantial reputation as a conductor of both the orchestral repertoire and opera. Winner of the *Deutsche Dirigentenpreis 2015* and a finalist in the *Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award 2014*, he was also awarded the *Seiji Ozawa Fellowship* at the Tanglewood Music Festival in 2008, and the following year joined the prestigious Deutsche Dirigentenforum, remaining on the programme until 2015. He has enjoyed a close working relationship with Bernard Haitink, assisting him in the preparation of concerts with the Chicago Symphony, European Union Youth Orchestra, Royal Concertgebouw and Wiener Philharmoniker. Furthermore, he has assisted Jiří Bělohlávek, Herbert Blomstedt, Christoph Eschenbach, Iván Fischer as well as Gérard Korsten and brings a depth of experience enhanced by four years as Assistant Conductor of the Gustav Mahler Jugendorchester and a senior position at the Meiningen State Theatre in Germany.

Leo McFall's engagements for the 18/19 season include debut concerts with BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra and Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra. Moreover, he'll return to Symphony Orchestra Vorarlberg and Württembergisches Kammerorchester Heilbronn. In spring 2019 he will record his first CD with the NDR Radiophilharmonie.

His appearances as a guest conductor in recent seasons include concerts with such orchestras as the Bern Symphony Orchestra, Bremen Philharmonic, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Dresden Philharmonic, Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Orchestre d'Auvergne, Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne, Oulu Symphony, Royal Scottish National Orchestra and the RTVE Symphony Orchestra Madrid. With Germany's Bundesjugendorchester he has both conducted concerts and prepared its exceptional young players for a performance with Simon Rattle. Among leading instrumentalists with whom he has collaborated are Nicholas Angelich, Jan Lisiecki, Nils Mönkemeyer, Kian Soltani and Antje Weithaas.

In opera, the Glyndebourne Festival and Glyndebourne on Tour have played a substantial role in his career where he recently realised projects as Mozart's *Così fan tutte* and Barber's *Vanessa*. He has also led performances at Hessisches Staatstheater Wiesbaden, Opera North and Volksoper Wien and conducted a new production of *La traviata* for his debut at English National Opera in spring 2018. Leo McFall's orchestral repertoire ranges from the Classical to

the contemporary and his activities in opera have embraced *Bluebeard's Castle*, *Carmen*, *Don Giovanni*, *Falstaff*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *I puritani*, *Mavra*, *Otello* (with José Cura in the title role), *Pagliacci*, *Renard*, *Rigoletto*, *Rusalka*, *Tannhäuser*, *The Snow Maiden*, *The Turn of the Screw*, *Tristan und Isolde* and the world premiere, at Glyndebourne, of Julian Philips' *The Yellow Sofa* (2009).

Born in the United Kingdom, Leo McFall gained a music degree at Oxford University and went on to study conducting, spending four years at Helsinki's Sibelius Academy, where his tuition from Leif Segerstam was complemented by classes with, among others, Hannu Lintu, Jorma Panula and Jukka-Pekka Saraste. He undertook further studies with Johannes Schlaefli at the Zurich University of the Arts. During his time in Finland he co-founded a chamber orchestra, and conducted the Kuopio Symphony Orchestra, Pori Sinfonietta and Sibelius Academy Symphony Orchestra. In the field of chamber music, he participated in masterclasses with Ferenc Rados and Krysia Osostowicz. While still at school in the UK he had reached the finals – as a pianist – of the *BBC Young Musician of the Year* and also played the violin and viola.

**2018/2019**

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