

Ben Palmer is Chief Conductor of the Deutsche Philharmonie Merck, and Founder and Artistic Director of Covent Garden Sinfonia, one of London's most dynamic and versatile chamber orchestras. As a guest conductor he works regularly with the Hallé, BBC Concert Orchestra, the Orchestra of Opera North, BBC Singers and St Petersburg Symphony Orchestra. Other recent engagements include the Hong Kong Philharmonic, BBC Symphony Orchestra, BBC Philharmonic, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Royal Northern Sinfonia, the Orchestra of Welsh National Opera, London Mozart Players, NDR Radiophilharmonie, Deutsches Kammerorchester Berlin, Heidelberger Sinfoniker, Württembergische Philharmonie Reutlingen, Deutsches Filmorchester Babelsberg, Sinfonietta de Lausanne, Pilsen Philharmonic Orchestra, and Czech National Symphony Orchestra. Future debuts include the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and the Chethams Symphony Orchestra.

Ben Palmer is one of Europe's foremost specialists in conducting live to film, appearing regularly at London's iconic Royal Albert Hall, where he has conducted films such as *Jurassic Park*, *Home Alone*, and *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*. His repertoire includes the *Star Wars* trilogy, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, *Back to the Future*, *Casino Royale* and *Skyfall*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Psycho*, *Brassed Off*, *The Gold Rush* and *Metropolis*. In 2021 he will conduct Charlie Chaplin's *Modern Times*.

Recent and forthcoming recordings include albums with the NDR Radiophilharmonie (for Sony Classical), BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Covent Garden Sinfonia (Max Richter, Peteris Vasks and Arvo Pärt with violinist Fenella Humphreys), and Deutsche Philharmonie Merck (a live disc of film music).

A trumpeter and composer by training, he studied music at the University of Birmingham, graduating with first class honours in 2003. He stayed on at Birmingham to complete an MPhil in composition, before moving to London in 2005 to study composition at the Royal Academy of Music. From 2011-16 he worked as assistant conductor to Sir Roger Norrington, and has twice acted as rehearsal conductor for Bernard Haitink, as well as assisting Paul McCreesh with the Gabrieli Consort & Players. In addition to his work as a conductor, he is sought after as a composer, arranger and orchestrator. In 2017 he was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM), and is more than three quarters of the way through his lifetime ambition to conduct all 107 Haydn symphonies.