

Ivor Bolton

Conductor

Chief Conductor Dresden Festival Orchestra

Conductor Laureate Mozarteumorchester Salzburg



Ivor Bolton is one of the most distinguished conductors in the field of Baroque and Classical repertoire; his versatility, however, is borderless. He recorded a critically acclaimed series of Bruckner-Symphonies with the Mozarteumorchester Salzburg, whose chief conductor he was for 12 years from 2004-2016. The *Billy Budd*-production which he conducted at the Teatro Real as well as at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden received the „best production“-prize by Opernwelt.

With Sinfonieorchester Basel, whose Chief Conductor Bolton was from 2016-2025, he recorded a series of three albums with works by Gabriel Fauré; further recording projects were dedicated to Berlioz, Saint-Saëns, Berio, Brahms and Britten. His latest album with the orchestra features works by Ernest Chausson (released June 2025).

During his tenure as Music Director of Teatro Real Madrid (2015-25), he led numerous outstanding productions – starting with *Leonore* in 2007 and followed, among others, by *La Calisto*, *Achille in Sciro*, *Peter Grimes*, *Rusalka*, *Médée* and *Mitridate*, as well as Kaija Saariaho's *Only the sound remains* following *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in 2026.

Projects for the 2026/27 season include returns to Mozartwoche Salzburg with *Così fan tutte*, Teatro Maggio Musicale with *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Bruckner Orchester Linz, Mozarteumorchester Salzburg and Dresden Festival Orchestra. More concert activities will take him, among others, to SWR Symphonieorchester Stuttgart, Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Fondazione Haydn di Bolzano, Salzburg Bach Society or further abroad to Toronto Symphony Orchestra and works as G.F. Händel *Messiah* or J. Haydn *The Creation*.

Since his time as Music Director of English Touring Opera and Glyndebourne Touring Opera, Ivor Bolton has appeared at numerous prestigious opera houses, including Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Opéra National de Paris, Royal Opera House Covent Garden, English National Opera, as well as the opera houses of Bologna, Brussels, Amsterdam, Lisbon, Sydney, Berlin, Hamburg, Venice, Vienna and Genoa. He enjoys a close relationship with the Bavarian State Opera Munich, where he has conducted 25 new productions, most notably of operas by Monteverdi, Handel and Mozart since 1994. He was awarded the prestigious „Bayerische Theaterpreis“ for his outstanding work in Munich.

In concert, he was principal conductor of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and a welcome guest at the BBC Proms and Lincoln Center New York, among others, as well as at the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich, Concertgebouworkest Amsterdam, Rotterdams Philharmonisch Orkest, Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra, Wiener Symphoniker, Brucknerorchester Linz, Tonkünstler Orchester Niederösterreich, Orchestre de Paris, Belgium National Orchestra, Antwerp Symphony Orchestra, Toscanini Orchestra, Maggio Musicale, La Fenice, Gürzenich Orchester Köln, hr-Sinfonieorchester Frankfurt, Freiburg Baroque Orchestra, Slovenian Philharmonic Orchestra. He enjoys a long-standing and continuous collaboration with the Salzburg Festival and Mozartwoche. In recognition of his achievements in Salzburg, he received the „Großes Verdienstzeichen des Landes Salzburg“ in 2016. Ivor Bolton is also „Commander of the Order of the British Empire“, awarded 2024 for his exceptional services to music.

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