



Brett Dean Composer, Conductor, Viola

Brett Dean was born and studied in Australia before moving to Germany. He was a member of the Berlin Philharmonic for fourteen years, during which time he began composing. His music is championed by leading conductors and orchestras worldwide, including Sir Simon Rattle, Daniel Harding, Andris Nelsons, and Marin Alsop. Much of Dean's work draws from literary, political, environmental or visual stimuli, including a number of compositions inspired by artwork by his wife Heather Betts.

Dean began composing in 1988, gaining international recognition through works such as his clarinet concerto *Ariel's Music* (1995), which won a UNESCO Composers award, and *Carlo* (1997), inspired by the music of Carlo Gesualdo. In 2009 Dean won the Grawemeyer Award for violin concerto *The Lost Art of Letter Writing*, and in 2017 his second opera *Hamlet* was premiered at Glyndebourne Festival Opera, winning a South Bank Sky Arts Award and International Opera Award. In 2022 Dean was awarded the Ivor Novello Award for Chamber Ensemble Composition for *Madame ma bonne sœur*, and in 2023 he won the Ivor Novello Award for Orchestral Composition for his Cello Concerto. Dean also appears with orchestras, ensembles and festivals worldwide as a conductor and as violist, performing his Viola Concerto and chamber music.

In the 2024/25 season, Dean conducts the Australian National Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra and performs at the Australian Festival of Chamber Music, Hatfield House and the Purbeck International Chamber Music Festival, where Dean's *I Starred Last Night, I Shone* receives its world premiere in a new version for voice and string trio. Elsewhere, Dean conducts the Swedish Chamber Orchestra, Lapland Chamber Orchestra, and the Riot Ensemble. 2025 sees the Spanish premiere of Dean's *In spe contra spem* by the Orquesta Nacional de España.

Dean was Composer in Residence of the London Philharmonic from 2019-2023, and at the Wigmore Hall for the 2023/24 season. In 2024, Dean was appointed Visiting Professor at the Royal Academy of Music in London.

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