

## SOFI JEANNIN Conductor



Renowned for her beautifully clear and succinct technique, and with a formidable repertoire knowledge and understanding across all genres, Swedish-born Sofi Jeannin has established herself as one of the finest and most respected choral specialists around today.

Currently Chief Conductor of the BBC Singers and Music Director of la Maîtrise de Radio France, Jeannin was previously Music Director of the Choeur de Radio France, a post she took up in 2015.

Through her work with the French Radio Chorus – the largest professional symphonic chorus in Europe – Jeannin became the collaborative conductor of choice for a number of prominent figures, including Gustavo Dudamel, Bernard Haitink, Christoph Eschenbach and Valery Gergiev, collaborating with orchestras such as l'Orchestre National de France, l'Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France and the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

In 2008, Jeannin was appointed Music Director of la Maîtrise de Radio France – the choir famously favoured by Messiaen and Dutilleux – where she continues to have the musical and pedagogical responsibility of 180 choristers. During her time with la Maîtrise, Jeannin has commissioned many new works, collaborating with composers such as Kaija Saariaho, Peter Eötvös, John Adams and Thierry Escaich, and has given regular broadcasts on France Musique.

In September 2018, Sofi Jeannin formally began her tenure with the BBC Singers as their new Chief Conductor. Recent and forthcoming performance highlights with the chorus include a collaboration with the Academy of Ancient Music and Akademi South Asian dance company for a vibrant and contemporary interpretation of the dances of Rameau, at Milton Court, London; a tour of Dubai; a concert celebrating the works of Ligeti; a performance of Bob Chilcott's *Move him into the sun* paired with the premiere of a new work by Roderick Williams; a tour of Norway, to perform Handel *Messiah* with the Norwegian Wind Ensemble; and a further collaboration with the Academy of Ancient Music for performances of Bach *Christmas Oratorio*.

Alongside her work with the BBC Singers, Jeannin has a busy and fulfilling guest career, with future engagement highlights including appearances with the Swedish Radio Chorus, Singapore Symphony Orchestra, New Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, Auckland Philharmonia, NFM Choir, Wrocław, and la Maîtrise de Radio France.

Sofi Jeannin studied conducting and singing at the Stockholm Royal College of Music, the Nice Conservatoire and the Royal College of Music, London. She conducted her first BBC Radio 3 broadcast, the British premiere of *Consolation I* by Helmut Lachenmann, in 2006, and prepared the Royal College of Music Chorus for conductors including Bernard Haitink, Peter Schreier and David Willcocks.

Committed to education and outreach work, Jeannin has worked with the chorus and orchestra of Kinshasa, Congo, and has also been involved in El Sistema, Greece since early 2017. She regularly gives workshops and masterclasses around the world.

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