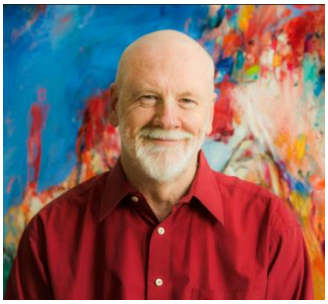
Brett Dean
Composer, Conductor, Viola



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) 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 soeur*, and in 2023 he won the Ivor Novello Award for Orchestral Composition for his Cello Concerto.

Alongside composing, Dean performs widely with orchestras, ensembles and festivals as a conductor and violist. During the 2024/25 season, Dean conducts the Swedish Chamber Orchestra, Lapland Chamber Orchestra, Riot Ensemble and Australian National Academy of Music. He plays chamber music at the Australian Festival of Chamber Music, Rheingau Musik Festival, Hatfield House Festival, West Cork Chamber Music Festival and 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. The season also includes the German premiere of *Fire Music* with the Berlin Philharmonic (conducted by Marin Alsop), and the Spanish premiere of Dean's *In spe contra spem* by the Orquesta Nacional de España (conducted by Jaime Martín).

Dean was Composer in Residence of the London Philharmonic from 2019-2023, and at the Wigmore Hall for the 2023/24 season.

Brett Dean is represented by Intermusica. The works of Brett Dean are published by Boosey & Hawkes.
2024/25 season / 320 words. Not to be altered without permission.