



## Sir James MacMillan

### Composer and Conductor

Sir James MacMillan is one of today's most successful composers and performs internationally as a conductor. His musical language is flooded with influences from his Scottish heritage, Catholic faith, social conscience and close connection with Celtic folk music.

MacMillan first became internationally recognised after the success of *The Confession of Isobel Gowdie* at the BBC Proms in 1990. His music has since been performed and broadcast around the world. Major works include percussion concerto *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*, a cello concerto for Mstislav Rostropovich and five symphonies. Recent works include his *Christmas Oratorio* premiered by the London Philharmonic in 2021, and *Timotheus, Bacchus and Cecilia* premiered by the Cincinnati Symphony in 2023.

MacMillan enjoys a successful career as a conductor, and is praised for the composer's insight he brings to each score. Conducting highlights include the Rotterdam Philharmonic, Munich Philharmonic, Danish Radio Symphony, Gothenburg Symphony, Netherlands Radio Philharmonic, Frankfurt Radio Symphony, St Louis Symphony, Baltimore Symphony and BBC Symphony. He was Principal Guest Conductor of the Netherlands Radio Chamber Philharmonic until 2013 and Composer/Conductor of the BBC Philharmonic until 2009.

Highlights of the 2024/25 season include the world premiere of MacMillan's *Concerto for Orchestra* (co-commissioned by the London Symphony Orchestra, Melbourne Symphony, Royal Stockholm Philharmonic, Auckland Philharmonia and Singapore Symphony) by the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Antonio Pappano. MacMillan's euphonium concerto, *Where the Lugar meets the Glaisnock*, receives its world premiere by David Childs and BBC National Orchestra of Wales, conducted by MacMillan. Elsewhere this season, MacMillan conducts the Hungarian National Philharmonic, BBC Scottish Symphony and Minnesota Orchestra. This year's Stockholm Philharmonic Composer Festival is dedicated to MacMillan.

MacMillan founded music festival *The Cumnock Tryst* in 2014, which takes place annually in his native Ayrshire. In 2024, the Festival celebrate their tenth anniversary by launching their International Summer School for Composers, directed by MacMillan and open to young composers worldwide.

MacMillan has conducted many of his own works on disc for Chandos, BIS and BMG. A recent highlight is a series on Challenge Records, including MacMillan's violin concerto *A Deep but Dazzling Darkness* and percussion concerto *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel* with Colin Currie and the Netherlands Radio Kamer Filharmonie. MacMillan's recent release on Harmonia Mundi conducting Britten Sinfonia won the 2016 BBC Music Magazine Award.

MacMillan was awarded a CBE in 2004 and a Knighthood in 2015. He was appointed a Fellow of the Ivors Academy in 2024.

The works of Sir James MacMillan are published by Boosey & Hawkes.  
Sir James MacMillan is represented by Intermusica.

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