

George Jackson

Conductor

“George Jackson raised the stature of the music to a rarely-encountered level, absolutely enthralling from first bar to last.”

Robert Matthew-Walker, Classical Source

George Jackson is quickly making a name for the breadth and commitment of his work, whether in opera, symphonic repertoire or contemporary scores, building strong relationships with the orchestras he conducts. Jackson is Music Director of the Amarillo Symphony, and will lead them in their Centenary year in 2023-24.

Jackson's skill in preparing complex scores has led to an ongoing relationship with Ensemble Intercontemporain. Together they released the world premiere recording of Steve Reich's *Reich/Richter* on Nonesuch Records, following successful performances of the work in Rome, Paris and Luxembourg. He also conducted the group for the French premieres of works by Rebecca Saunders and James Dillon at the 2019 Festival d'Automne à Paris. With Collegium Novum Zürich Jackson conducted *Noli me tangere*, a new work by Isabel Mundry, and with Brussels Philharmonic he led the world premiere of Claire-Mélanie Sinnhuber's new work, *Chahut*.

He is increasingly sought-after as a guest with European orchestras, who appreciate his fearless conducting and thorough rehearsal technique. Recent engagements include Orchestre de Paris, RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra, BBC Symphony Orchestra, Birmingham Contemporary Music Group and the orchestra of Opéra de Rouen.

Praised for his natural affinity for opera, he has received acclaim for his work in productions of *Hänsel und Gretel* and *The Excursions of Mr Brouček* (Grange Park Opera), *Le nozze di Figaro* (Opera Holland Park), and *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (Theater an der Wien). A recent highlight has been the world premiere of *Gods of the Game* - a collaborative opera commissioned by Sky Arts for Grange Park Opera. Future plans include conducting *La bohème* at Opera Holland Park as part of their 2023 season.

The son of actor parents, Jackson began inventing theatrical entertainments with his sister at an early age, as well as learning the violin, and later served as a drummer and guitarist in post-punk, rock and Irish folk bands, developing broad musical tastes that he retains to this day.

Jackson's formative experiences include his participation at Lucerne Festival Academy and at Aspen Music Festival, where he was awarded the Aspen Conducting Prize in 2015. He is passionate and informed about the art and traditions of conducting, and regularly passes on his enthusiasm through podcasts on the subject.