

## Adam Walker

### Flute

#### *"brehtaking virtuosity"*

The Guardian July 2022

A multi-faceted artist with a ferocious appetite for repertoire, Adam Walker is an outstanding ambassador for his instrument, committed to bringing the Flute to new audiences in settings ranging from solo recitals through to large-scale orchestral works. With a curious and creative approach to programming, Adam's interests range from lesser-known French Baroque repertoire through to newly commissioned works. He has given world premieres of concertos by composers including Brett Dean, Kevin Puts, and Huw Watkins as well as championing works by Kaija Saariaho, John Corigliano and Weinberg.

As a soloist Walker regularly performs with the major UK orchestras including the BBC Philharmonic, BBC Scottish Symphony, London Symphony, Hallé, Ulster, Sinfonia of London, Scottish Chamber, BBC National Orchestra of Wales and the Sinfonia of London. Further afield he has performed with the Baltimore Symphony, Seattle Symphony, Grant Park Festival, Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Mexico, Seoul Philharmonic, Auckland Philharmonia, Malaysian Philharmonic, Bergen Philharmonic, Malmö Symphony, Tampere Philharmonic, Orquesta Sinfonica de Tenerife, Vienna Chamber and the RTE National Symphony Orchestras.

A committed chamber musician with an open and collaborative style, recent seasons have seen Walker make appearances at the BBC Chamber Proms, Wigmore Hall, LSO St Luke's, De Singel Antwerp, Musée du Louvre, Hamburg Elbphilharmonie, Frankfurt Alte Oper and the Utrecht, West Cork, Delft and Moritzburg Chamber Music Festivals. Recent collaborators include Tabea Zimmermann, Cédric Tiberghien, Angela Hewitt, Mahan Esfahani, James Baillieu, Ailish Tynan, Timothy Ridout, Anneleen Lenaerts and Sean Shibe. Walker is an alumnus of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's prestigious Bowers Program and in 2018 he founded the Orsino Ensemble; an ensemble with a mission to showcase the depth and versatility of the wind chamber repertoire.

Highlighting his growing reputation for programming, Walker was named Artistic Director of the Leeds International Chamber Series for the 23/24 season. Through a carefully curated series of concerts mining the riches of the Flute's Golden Age, originating in Paris and the French Flute School, the series explores wider connections with France and beyond through works by composers ranging from Poulenc, Jolivet and Boulanger through to Thomas Ades, Judith Weir and Tamsin Waley-Cohen.

Walker has been an exclusive Chandos recording artist since 2021. His first release for the label of "French Works for Flute" saw him praised in Gramophone for his "*clear, cool, bright tone, effortless technique and finely nuanced expressiveness*". The simultaneous release on Chandos of the debut recording from Walker's Orsino Ensemble, showcasing repertoire from the French Belle Époque was praised as a showcase of "*all-star playing of the highest level*" by The Guardian. 2023 saw the release of "Shadow Dances"; an exploration of British music praised as "*an enchanting programme*" by Pizzicato.

Previous solo releases include "Vocalise" (Opus Arte), Kevin Puts Flute Concerto with Marin Alsop and the Peabody Institute (Naxos) and the Huw Watkins Concerto with the Hallé and Ryan Wigglesworth (NMC). Future releases for Chandos include the Nielsen Concerto with the Bergen Philharmonic and Ed Gardner.

Adam Walker studied at Chetham's School of Music with Gitte Sorensen and at the Royal Academy of Music with Michael Cox graduating with distinction in 2009 and winning the HRH Princess Alice Prize for exemplary studentship. He was appointed principal flute of the London Symphony Orchestra at the age of just 21, a position he held until 2020. His many awards include Outstanding Young Artist Award at MIDEM Classique as well as a Borletti-Buitoni Trust Fellowship. He was appointed professor at the Royal College of Music in 2017 and at the Bern Academy of the Arts in 2022.