

Sir Andrew Davis

Music Director and Principal Conductor, Lyric Opera of Chicago

Sir Andrew Davis has served as music director and principal conductor of Lyric Opera of Chicago since 2000. He began his tenure as chief conductor of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in January 2013.

In the 2016-17 season, Sir Andrew conducts three operas at Lyric: *Das Rheingold*, *Les Troyens*, and *Don Quichotte*. After the New Year, Sir Andrew travels to Europe and Australia for concerts and recording sessions for Chandos Records. Engagements this season include the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and the Bergen and Royal Liverpool Philharmonics, as well as the Edinburgh International Festival.

The English conductor began his 2015-16 season at Lyric Opera leading *La Cenerentola* and *Wozzeck*, and *The Merry Widow*. Following the final performance of *The Merry Widow* in December, Sir Andrew joined the Toronto Symphony Orchestra in performances of his own re-orchestration of Handel's *Messiah*, which was also recorded live and will be released in November 2016 by Chandos Records. After the New Year, Sir Andrew returned to the podium at Lyric for the world premiere of *Bel Canto*, a new opera by Jimmy López based on the best-selling novel by Ann Patchett. Following the end of the Lyric season, Sir Andrew made return appearances with the orchestras of Bergen, Liverpool, Melbourne (including a tour to China), Detroit, and Frankfurt, along with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and summer in addition to several recording sessions for Chandos records.

Conductor laureate of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra (he was previously that ensemble's principal conductor), Sir Andrew is also conductor laureate of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Conductor Emeritus of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic and former music director of the Glyndebourne Festival Opera. He has led performances at many of the world's most important opera houses, among them the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala, Covent Garden, the Bayreuth Festival, and the major companies of Munich, Paris, San Francisco, and Santa Fe. In addition to those ensembles previously mentioned, he has appeared with virtually every other internationally prominent orchestra, including the Berlin Philharmonic, the Royal Concertgebouw, the Rotterdam Philharmonic, and all the major British orchestras.

A vast discography documents Sir Andrew's artistry, with recent CDs including works of Berlioz, Elgar, Grainger, Delius, Ives, Holst (nominated for a Grammy in 2015 for Best Choral Performance), and York Bowen (nominated for a Grammy in 2012 for Best Orchestral Performance). In 1992 Maestro Davis was created a Commander of the British Empire, and in 1999 he was made a Knight Bachelor in the New Year Honours List. He has been awarded an honorary doctorate by Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois.

For further information, please visit Sir Andrew's website.