

David Scarr

Born in South Africa, David Scarr received his early musical training in the English Choral tradition, later completing his Bachelor of Music studies at the Nelson Mandela Metropole University, Port Elizabeth, as well as gaining Licentiate in French Horn Performance and Brass Pedagogy from the Royal Schools of Music, London, and the University of South Africa. After a five year period in Cape Town where he held the position of Head of the Beau Soleil Orchestral Music Centre, he left to further his studies in conducting at the Vienna Conservatoire, graduating with Distinction in 1994. He has directed performances in the opera, choral, symphonic and chamber orchestra genres in South Africa, Australia, Spain, Portugal, Rumania and Slovakia, including directing the world premieres of both opera and symphonic works. His performances of the world premiere of South African composer Roelof Temmingh's opera "Buchuland" received international critical acclaim. He has recorded works for Austrian, Slovakian and South African Radio, Classic Fm and Fine Music Radio. As a horn player he spent 6 years with the Vienna Chamber Orchestra, working with amongst many others, Sir Neville Marriner, Phillipe Entremont, Heinz Holliger and Heinrich Schiff, as well as being highly in demand in the freelance professional arena. From 2002-2007 he held the position of Professor and Head of the Rhodes University Music Department in Grahamstown, South Africa, after which he returned to settle in Vienna.

He is a principal guest conductor of the Schönbrunn Palace Orchestra, and pursues an active international performing and teaching career.