

"Bantock infects the orchestra with vigour... extracting musical sensibility and technical excellence in equal measures." THE STRAD

The conductor Bjorn Bantock, has an extensive performance schedule conducting numerous ensembles and orchestras in the United Kingdom, Europe and the rest of the world. Some of his recent engagements include the European Bienniale in Naples, the Aberystwyth Music Festival and the International String

Orchestra Festival in Malta with concert master Matthias Wollong (Leader of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe). He also has conducted the Watford Philharmonic Orchestra, the Northern Sinfonia, the Hertfordshire Philharmonia, the Philharmonisches Kammerorchester Berlin, the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra, the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra, the Orchestra of the Royal Conservatoire of Music in Copenhagen and the Moscow Philharmonic. He is the principal conductor for the Europa Ensemble.

Now based in London, Bantock recently returned from a tour of South America performing in Chille, Argentina and Brazil. He has worked as conductor at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, the Royal Northern College of Music and the London Contemporary Dance School. He was recently invited to conduct and give a series of lectures for the Classical Live Exhibition at the London Olympia.

Bantock conducts for the ASKOV and Open Strings Festivals in Denmark, the Oxford Cello School and the Alpine Summer Course in Geneva and has given master classes for Pro Corda, King's College Wimbledon, the European String Teachers Association at the Royal College of Music and Crantock Bay Summer School. He also has a cello class at Cambridge University with pupils from Trinity, St John, Caius, Kings, Pembroke, Clare, and St Catharine's Colleges.

Winner of the 2003 Contemporary Music Prize, Bantock is actively involved in the performance of contemporary music and participated in broadcasts for BBC Radio 3, performing works by James Macmillan. Bantock has won numerous prizes, bursaries and scholarships including first prize in the Sir John Barbirolli competition and a full four year Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music International Scholarship to study at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester where he was also awarded the highest performance accolade of the RNCM, a PPRNCM. Bantock studied conducting with Colin Metters, Head of Conducting at the Royal Academy of Music in London and has received guidance from Sir Charles Mackerras and Barry Wordsworth, the principal conductor of the Royal Ballet Covent Garden and the BBC Concert Orchestra.