

# EDINBURGH ROYAL CHORAL UNION

## Edinburgh Royal Choral Union Conducting Fellowship 2024-25

**Applications for the ERCU Conducting Fellowship are now open. This is a funded post for our 2024-25 season and we invite expressions of interest by CV. To apply, please send your CV to [admin@ercu.org.uk](mailto:admin@ercu.org.uk) by 20 September 2024.**

The successful applicant will gain further experience of choral conducting under the direction of Michael Bawtree, ERCU's Chorus Director, who is also Lecturer in Conducting at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Attendance at rehearsals in Edinburgh on Tuesday evenings will be expected: the number of rehearsals required will be at the discretion of the Chorus Director. The successful applicant will attend performances and the opportunity to direct and conduct works will be agreed in advance with the Chorus Director. Funding will be offered according to specific rehearsal and concert duties performed, as agreed with the Chorus Director, and will be capped at £1,500 for the season. Short-listed applicants will be auditioned at rehearsal on the evening of Tuesday 8 October 2024.

Concerts are currently scheduled in ERCU's 2024-25 season as follows, all taking place in Edinburgh:

- Brahms *Requiem* and Ronald Center's *Dona Nobis Pacem* at St Cuthbert's Parish Church on 16 November.
- A Christmas concert at Morningside Parish Church on 14 December.
- ERCU's 137th annual *Messiah* in the Usher Hall on 2 January.
- Spring and/or summer concert tbc..

Alongside performances of music composed over past centuries, ERCU promotes new music and has given Scottish premieres including Paul Mealor's *The Farthest Shore*, Thea Musgrave's *The Voices of Our Ancestors*, Bob Chilcott's *St John Passion* and Richard Blackford's *Pietà*. In 2009, accompanied by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, ERCU gave a world premiere performance of Judith Bingham's *Shadow Aspect*, commissioned for its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It also gave the world premiere performance of Thomas LaVoy's *water psalms* in 2023, commissioned to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the opening for worship of Greyfriars Kirk. That concert also included *Cantemus Igitur* by award-winning Scottish composer, Rory Boyle. Other highlights have included performances with Andrea Bocelli at Glasgow's Ovo Hydro; concerts to celebrate the Commonwealth Games and the centenary of the completion of the Usher Hall; visits to Orkney's St Magnus International Festival for concerts alongside the St Magnus Festival Chorus; a sell-out performance in 2018 at the magnificently restored McEwan Hall of Verdi's *Requiem* and Szymanowski's *Stabat Mater*, side by side with the Edinburgh University Chamber Choir and student instrumentalists; and memorable performances of *Messiah* in 2020 with Dame Jane Glover CBE and in 2023 with Sir James MacMillan.

For further information about ERCU, please see [www.ercu.org.uk](http://www.ercu.org.uk).