Roderick Cox
Conductor

“To Prokofiev, it was the sound of the human spirit, but in Cox’s hands it sounded like his own story: Taking what he already had and imagining himself anew.” (Symphony No.5, Washington Post). In July 2020 Roderick Cox spoke to the New York Times about his commitment to changing historic and narrow perceptions of classical music. Through his own career both on and off stage he sets a standard for excellence, diversity, opportunity, and accessibility in the music he loves.

From the 2024/25 season, Roderick Cox will hold the post of Music Director to Opéra Orchestre National de Montpellier Occitanie. Roderick’s  invitations with the highest level of international ensembles include Philadelphia Orchestra, Boston Symphony, Orchestre de Paris, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Cincinnati Symphony, The Cleveland Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra and Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin. He is also founder of the Roderick Cox Music Initiative (RCMI, 2019)— a programme that nurtures and provides scholarships and opportunities for young musicians in order to make music more accessible. Elk Mountain Productions’ award winning 2020 documentary film Conducting Life maps his journey and reflects his passionate belief in the transformative power of music.

Recent highlights include Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin, Staatskapelle Dresden, Philharmonia Orchestra, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, BBC Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, Seattle Symphony, and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. Last season Roderick made his Canadian debuts with Orchestre Symphonique de Montreal and National Arts Centre, Ottawa.

The 2024/25 season includes returns to the Philadelphia Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony, Halle Orchestra (UK), Lahti Sinfonia, WDR Symphony as well engagements with Rotterdam Philharmonic, Bamberg Symphoniker, Finnish National Opera Orchestra, Antwerp Symphony Orchestra and Sydney Symphony Orchestra. He will also tour with the Junge Deutsche Philharmonie which will include Berlin and Hamburg. Roderick returns to the Aspen Music Festival Chamber Orchestra in summer 2024.

In 2024, Roderick made his debut with English National Opera with Rossini’s Barber of Seville. He has conducted at the Houston Grand Opera (Pêcheurs de Perles), San Francisco Opera (Barber of Seville), Washington National Opera (Jeanine Tesori's Blue) and Opéra National de Montpellier (Rigoletto and La Boheme).

Roderick’s notable recording with Seattle Symphony Orchestra of William Dawson’s Negro Folk Symphony was released in February 2023 and received high praise by the New York Times as one of the top five recordings to listen to along with receiving a five-star rating by the BBC Music Magazine. Nominated for the 2023 BBC Music Magazine’s Opera Award, Roderick’s recording of Jeanine Tesori’s powerful opera, Blue with Washington National Opera Orchestra in association with San Francisco Classical Recording Company was released on the Pentatone label in March 2022.

Winner of the 2018 Sir Georg Solti Conducting Award by the U.S Solti Foundation, Roderick was born in Macon, Georgia. Roderick attended the Schwob School of Music at Columbus State University, and then later the Northwestern University graduating with a master’s degree in 2011. He was awarded the Robert J. Harth Conducting Prize from the Aspen Music Festival in 2013 and has held fellowships with the Chicago Sinfonietta as part of their Project Inclusion program and at the Chautauqua Music Festival, where he was a David Effron Conducting Fellow. In 2016, Roderick was appointed as Associate Conductor of the Minnesota Orchestra, under [Osmo Vänskä](https://www.harrisonparrott.com/artists/osmo-vanska), for three seasons, having previously served as assistant conductor for a year.

HarrisonParrott represents Roderick Cox for worldwide general management.