

# MONICA BUCKLAND

## Curriculum vitae

As a freelance orchestral and choral conductor, and in jobs at UNSW, the TU Dresden, and the CSAMTV in Sion, I have **30 years of professional conducting experience**, across varied repertoires, and with particular strengths in new music and music by women composers; and, more recently, working with students and amateurs. I can meet musicians at whatever level and coach them to a higher one, conscious that enjoyment of the whole process is a priority, and trusting the music within them.

### Personal details

Private address: 18A Henley Street, Lane Cove West, NSW 2066

Tel.: 0405 214141

e-mail: [m.buckland@unsw.edu.au](mailto:m.buckland@unsw.edu.au)

Website: [www.buckland.ch](http://www.buckland.ch)

Born: 4 May 1965, Exeter, England

Nationality: British / Swiss dual national

### University positions

**2019–present** **Adjunct Lecturer**, University of New South Wales, Sydney  
“Performance Lab” and conducting course

**2013–present** **Lecturer**, Palucca Hochschule für Tanz, Dresden (online course since 2016)  
Conductor of annual Matinee at the Semperoper  
Teacher of music theory and history  
Chair of examiners

**2017–2020** **Tutor**, Durham University  
Teacher of conducting

**2008–2014** **Director of Music**, TU Dresden  
Conductor of both university [orchestras](#)  
Coach for chamber music  
Teacher of conducting

**2004–2006** **Principal**, Conservatoire supérieur et Académie de musique Tibor Varga, Sion  
Conductor of the CSAMTV orchestra  
Teacher of conducting  
Examiner for theory and instrumental exams  
Director of Research, Haute Ecole de Musique de la Suisse Romande

### Other conducting positions

2023-present Musical Director, [Bel a cappella](#)  
2020-present Musical Director, [Balmain Sinfonia](#)  
2015-2019 Musical Director, [New Tyneside Orchestra](#), UK  
1993-2009 Music Director, [ars cantata zürich](#), Switzerland  
2001-05 Music Director, Lehrergesangverein Zürich (one of the 4 Tonhalle choruses)  
summer 2001 Assistant Conductor, Gstaad Festival  
2000-03 Conductor, coramor Chur  
1997-99 Music Director, Orchestre de chambre jurassien  
1995-2002 English Church Music Group, Basel  
1993-99 Music Director, Motettenchor Region Basel  
1992-93 Assistant Conductor, Filharmonie Bohuslava Martinů Zlín, Czech Republic  
1987-89 Musical Director, St Mary’s Singers, Pottton, and Cambridge Cantata Club

## Concerts as guest conductor with:

- Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Orange Symphony Orchestra, Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic, Australia
- Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich; Zürcher Kammerorchester; Radio-Sinfonieorchester Basel; Orchestergesellschaft Biel; Basler Sinfonieorchester; Stadtorchester Winterthur; Symphonisches Orchester Zürich; Bläsersolisten Aargau; Ensemble Theater am Gleis; Conservatoire orchestras in Neuchâtel, Zurich, Bern and Winterthur, Switzerland;
- Westbohemian Symphony Orchestra, Mariánské Lázně; Bohemian Chamber Philharmonic, Pardubice; Severočeská Filharmonie, Teplice; Leos Janáček Filharmonie, Ostrava; Filharmonie Bohuslava Martinu, Zlín, Czech Republic;
- Slovak Sinfonietta, Zilina, Slovakia;
- State Philharmonic, Wroclaw; Filharmonia Sudecka, Walbrzych, Poland;
- Divertiment, St Petersburg, Russia;
- Roosevelt Ensemble, Washington, D.C.;
- Çukurova State Symphony orchestra, Turkey;
- Orchestra North East, Ten Tors Orchestra, Harrogate Philharmonic, The Newnham Ensemble, UK.

## Ballet

Worked at the Palucca Hochschule für Tanz, Dresden, with Nanette Glushak, Jason Beechey, and choreographers from among the teaching staff, with performances at the Semperoper:

*Evas Äpfel* (Friedemann Stolte, 1st perf.)  
*Handel Variations* (Brahms, orch. Rubbra)  
*Six Dances* (Mozart/Kylián)  
*Valse fantasie* (Glinka/Balanchine)  
*Serenade* (Tchaikovsky/Balanchine)  
*Scotch Symphony* (Mendelssohn/Balanchine)

## Opera

Musical Director, Rocket Opera, Berwick Festival (*Iolanthe*), 2016

Musical Director, La Chapelle Ancienne (*King Arthur*), 2002

Assistant conductor/chorus master, Gstaad Festival (*Figaro*) 2001

Assistant on productions of *Don Giovanni* (Oper im E-Werk Berlin, 1997), and

*Paul Bunyan* (Covent Garden, 1998)

Musical Director of 5 productions by Cambridge University Gilbert and Sullivan Society, 1987-89, 2011 and 2013

## Discography

Alfons Karl Zwicker	<i>Vom Klang der Bilder</i> MGB Musikszene Schweiz CD 6151 (1998)
Fortunat Frölich	<i>missaverde</i> MDS Records MDS 3012 (2000)
Bettina Skrzypczak	<i>SN 1993 J</i> MGB Musikszene Schweiz CTS-M 78 (2003)

## Broadcasts (selection)

[Trusting the music within you](#), TEDx Newnham 2018

Bettina Skrzypczak, *SN1993J*, Bayerischer Rundfunk 1999; DRS2 2003

Jean-Claude Schlaepfer, *Chant de lune*, DRS2 2001

Susan Burkey, *My masters' voices*, KJAX 2000

Fortunat Frölich, *missaverde*, DRS2 2000

Louisa Lasdun, *In meinen Träumen...*, DRS2 "Musik für einen Gast: Mariella Mehr"

Brahms, *Symphony no. 1*, DRS2 1998

A K Zwicker, *Vom Klang der Bilder*, 1998

Rudolf Kelterborn, *Gesänge zur Nacht*; Bettina Skrzypczak, *SN1993J*, Farewell concert of Radio-Sinfonieorchester Basel, DRS2 1997

Albert Moeschinger *Miracles de l'Enfance*, Basel Musik Forum concert, DRS2 1997

Podium discussion "Frauen an den ersten Pulten" (Women on the front desks), DRS2 1995

Kurt Weill, *Violin concerto, Songs, Kleine Dreigroschenmusik*, Swiss TV SF1 1994

Recorded all the Radio DRS2 jingles with Kammerorchester Basel, 1997.

## Other relevant experience

Annual chamber music workshop at Newnham College, Cambridge, 2008-2018  
Commissioned and conducted new pieces in workshops at the [Ernen Musikdorf](#) Festival, 2004-2007  
Series of approx. 40 international Singing Weekend workshops, including weeks as  
Visiting Choir in English cathedrals, 1994–2013  
Director of concert series at [Schloss Wartegg](#), Switzerland, 1997-2003

## Musical education

Musik-Akademie der Stadt Basel (1989-93), Kapellmeisterdiplom  
(conducting teachers Manfred Honeck, Ralf Weikert, Horst Stein, Lothar Zagrosek, Wilfried Boettcher;  
composition teacher Rudolf Kelterborn)  
Worked with Orchestergesellschaft Biel, Stadtorchester Winterthur, Basler Sinfonieorchester,  
Radio-Sinfonieorchester Basel, International Opera Studio Zurich, conservatoire orchestras in Basel,  
Zurich and Bern  
  
Newnham College, Cambridge (1983-87), MA Hons in Music

## Masterclasses

American Academy of Conducting at Aspen, summer 2000 (with David Zinman, Jorma Panula, Murry Sidlin and Michael Stern)  
Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich, October 1996 (David Zinman)  
Musik-Akademie der Stadt Basel, New Music Workshops (Witold Lutoslawski, Werner Heider)  
Symphonic Workshops 1992, Marienbad and Zlín, Czech Republic (Kirk Trevor, Zdenek Bilek and Karol Stryja)  
Wiener Meisterkurse 1989, Vienna (Julius Kalmar)  
Hereford Summer School 1988, 1989, 1992, Hereford (Simon Johnson)

## Competitions and awards

2004 Valiant Forum prize of the Murten Festival (with CSAMTV orchestra)  
1994 Prizewinner, Leeds Conductors' Competition  
1992 & 1993 First Prize, Schweizerische Tonkünstlerverein Conducting Competition  
1990 Tillet Trust award to attend Musik-Akademie der Stadt Basel  
1990 Musik-Akademie der Stadt Basel Scholarship  
1989 Finalist, National Association of Youth Orchestras Conducting Competition  
1988 First Sue Williams Bursary, Hereford Summer School

## Other relevant information

ITV [Woman of the Year](#) for Northeast England, 2019

Board Member of the International Alliance for Women in Music, 1999-2002 and 2019–2023

- Chair of the [Pauline Alderman Awards](#) for writing about women in music
- Organised a concert and panel discussion in collaboration with UNSW 2022

Elected Associate of Newnham College, Cambridge, 2015

Co-President of FrauenMusikForum Schweiz, 1996-2005

Languages: English (mother tongue), German (+Swiss-German), French, some Italian, Czech