Karen Ní Bhroin

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

With a career spanning both sides of the Atlantic, Karen Ní Bhroin has established herself as one of Ireland's foremost and most dynamic conductors. Highly regarded for her authoritative interpretations and engaging podium presence, her 2026–27 season features major debuts and high-profile returns.

Highlights include her French debut with the Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire, leading performances in November and March, and the world premiere of a major new orchestral commission based on the Irish legend *The Magical Harp of the Dagda*, with performances in Dublin with the National Symphony Orchestra and in Munich with the Munich Radio Orchestra. She also debuts with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, gives a broadcast performance with the Ulster Orchestra, and returns to the London Symphony Orchestra.

Ní Bhroin is a recipient of the Taki Alsop Conducting Fellowship and serves as Senior Lecturer in Conducting at the Mozarteum University Salzburg. She is also founder of *And Other Duties Conducting Courses* and creator of the podcast *And Other Duties: The Life of the Assistant Conductor*.

MEDIUM BIOGRAPHY

With a career spanning both sides of the Atlantic, Karen Ní Bhroin has established herself as one of Ireland's foremost and most dynamic conductors. Highly regarded for her authoritative interpretations and engaging podium presence, her 2026–27 season features major debuts, international premieres and high-profile returns.

Highlights include her French debut with the Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire, leading performances in November and March, and the world premiere of a major new orchestral commission based on the Irish legend *The Magical Harp of the Dagda*, with performances in Dublin with the National Symphony Orchestra and in Munich with the Munich Radio Orchestra. She also makes her debut with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, gives a broadcast performance with the Ulster Orchestra, and returns to the London Symphony Orchestra.

This follows an exceptional 2025–26 season, during which Ní Bhroin made acclaimed debuts with the Hallé, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and New Japan Philharmonic in Tokyo. She also returned to the BBC Proms, conducting the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, and reunited with the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall for Anna Lapwood's Christmas Concert.

A fierce advocate for contemporary opera, Ní Bhroin served as Music Director for Irish National Opera's *Breathwork* and led the world premiere of Éna Brennan's *Hold Your Breath*, directed by David Pountney, at the 2024 Bregenz Festival. Her recent work also includes collaborations with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Welsh National Opera, Manchester Camerata, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, RTÉ Concert Orchestra, Irish Chamber Orchestra and Grand Rapids Symphony.

A recipient of the Taki Alsop Conducting Fellowship, Ní Bhroin spent two years under the mentorship of Marin Alsop. She is Senior Lecturer in Conducting at the Mozarteum University Salzburg and founder of *And Other Duties Conducting Courses*

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FULL BIOGRAPHY

With a career spanning both sides of the Atlantic, Karen Ní Bhroin has established herself as one of Ireland's foremost and most dynamic conductors. Highly regarded for her authoritative interpretations and engaging presence on the podium, her 2026–27 season features major debuts and high-profile returns. Highlights include her French debut leading the Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire across performances in November and March, and conducts the world premiere of a major new orchestral commission based on the Irish legend *The Magical Harp of the Dagda*, with performances in Dublin with the National Symphony Orchestra and in Munich with the Munich Radio Orchestra. She also makes her debut with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO), gives a broadcast performance with the Ulster Orchestra, and a return to the London Symphony Orchestra (LSO).

This momentum follows an exceptional 2025–26 season, which saw Ní Bhroin make a series of acclaimed debuts with the Hallé, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, and the New Japan Philharmonic in Tokyo. She also returned to the stage of the BBC Proms conducting the BBC National Orchestra of Wales and reunited with the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall, London for Anna Lapwood's Christmas Concert.

In recent seasons, Ní Bhroin made headlines with her initial BBC Proms debut alongside the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, as well as debuts with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Manchester Camerata and Welsh National Opera and returning to the National Symphony Orchestra, Dublin. A fierce advocate for contemporary opera, she served as Music Director for Irish National Opera's *Breathwork* (2023) and led the world premiere of Éna Brennan's *Hold Your Breath,* directed by David Pountney, at the 2024 Bregenz Festival. Her expansive international portfolio includes collaborations with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, RTÉ Concert Orchestra, Irish Chamber Orchestra, and Grand Rapids Symphony, alongside advanced masterclasses with Canada's Orchestre Métropolitain and Orchestre Symphonique de Québec.

As a recipient of the prestigious Taki Alsop Conducting Fellowship, she spent two years under the direct mentorship of Marin Alsop, complementing a deep training background supported by figures like JoAnn Falletta, Nathalie Stutzmann, and Thomas Wilkins. Equally dedicated to pedagogy and institutional leadership, Ní Bhroin served as Female Artist in Residence (FAiR) at the Mozarteum University Salzburg. The post was extended and she became Senior Lecturer in Conducting, which continues this season. As an educational innovator, she is the creator of the acclaimed podcast *And Other Duties: The Life of the Assistant Conductor* and the founder of *And Other Duties Conducting Courses*. Driven by a mission to address gaps in traditional musical education, her masterclasses in Dublin, Manchester, New York, North Macedonia, and the Netherlands foster transparent communication and teach vital, real-world podium skills. Ní Bhroin began her professional path in Ireland working closely with the National Symphony Orchestra and National Philharmonic Choir. She then relocated to the United States, serving as Assistant Conductor of North Carolina's Winston-Salem Symphony, Music Director of its Youth Orchestras Program, and Associate Conductor at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (2020–2022). A music education graduate of Trinity College Dublin, she holds a Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting from Kent State University, Ohio, where she studied under Dr. Jungho Kim as Graduate Assistant Conductor.