

Alasdair Neale is the Music Director of the Sun Valley Music Festival (SVMF). The 2025 season marks thirty-one years at the helm of the festival (formerly the Sun Valley Summer Symphony). As Music Director of the SVMF, Mr. Neale has propelled this festival to national status: it is now the largest privately funded free admission symphony in America. Among the many celebrated guest artists that Mr. Neale has brought to this festival are Emanuel Ax, Joshua Bell, Renée Fleming, Yo-Yo Ma, Audra McDonald, Midori, Itzhak Perlman, Gil Shaham, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Yuja Wang, and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

In 2024, Mr. Neale completed his five-year tenure as Music Director of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. His appointment came after an extensive international search and marked a return for him to the city where he lived, studied, and began his professional career more than 30 years prior.

In 2023, Alasdair Neale celebrated his 22nd and final year as Music Director of the Marin Symphony. After he assumed the post in 2001, Mr. Neale was hailed for invigorating the orchestra and establishing it as one of the finest in the Bay Area. Under Mr. Neale's direction, the Marin Symphony was chosen as one of several distinguished orchestras to participate in Magnum Opus, a groundbreaking, decade-long commissioning project bringing new music to the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond. Osvaldo Golijov, Kevin Puts, Kenji Bunch, David Carlson, and Avner Dorman were among the composers represented in the project.

Mr. Neale's appointment with the Marin Symphony followed 12 years as Associate Conductor of the San Francisco Symphony and Music Director of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra. During that time, he conducted both orchestras in hundreds of critically acclaimed concerts both here and abroad. Under Mr. Neale's direction, the Youth Orchestra became one of the finest young ensembles in the world, receiving consistent rave reviews for performances in San Francisco, as well as on tours in Amsterdam, Leipzig, Moscow, St. Petersburg, Madrid, Paris, Prague, Dublin, Copenhagen, and Vienna.

From 2001 to 2011, Mr. Neale served as Principal Guest Conductor of the New World Symphony. From 2001 to 2014, he served on the faculty of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He has guest-conducted numerous orchestras around the world, including the New York Philharmonic, Dallas Symphony, Saint Louis Symphony, Houston Symphony, Toronto Symphony, Seattle Symphony, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Honolulu Symphony, Fort Worth Symphony, Kansas City Symphony, Louisville Orchestra, Colorado Symphony, Nashville Symphony, San Antonio Symphony, Florida Orchestra, Phoenix Symphony, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Orchestre National de Lyon, Sydney Symphony, Real Filharmonia de Galicia, l'Orchestre Métropolitain du Grand-Montréal, Radio Sinfonie Orchester Stuttgart, Auckland Philharmonia, Orchestra of St. Gallen (Switzerland), MDR Leipzig, NDR Hannover, Trondheim Symphony, Orchestre du Capitole de Toulouse, Ensemble Orchestral de Paris, and at the Aspen Music Festival. In March 2002, he collaborated with director Peter Sellars and composer John Adams to open the Adelaide Festival with a production of the oratorio *El Niño*.

Mr. Neale's discography includes a recording of Aaron Jay Kernis' *Colored Field* with the San Francisco Symphony, featuring English horn player Julie Ann Giacobassi, which won France's Diapason d'or award following its release. He may also be heard on New World Records conducting the ensemble Solisti New York in a recording of new flute concertos. Alasdair Neale appears on the Bay Brass recording "Sound the Bells," released in March 2011 on the Harmonia Mundi label and nominated for a GRAMMY for Best Small Ensemble Performance.

Alasdair Neale holds a Bachelor's degree from Cambridge University and a Master's from Yale University, where his principal teacher was Otto-Werner Mueller. He lives in Paris.