Dónal McCann is an acclaimed conductor, organist and composer. Born in Belfast, his musical training began as a chorister at St Peter’s Cathedral, before taking up piano and organ tuition in Dublin. He read music and was an organ scholar at King’s College, Cambridge, where he achieved a double first and accompanied the world famous choir under Sir Stephen Cleobury and Daniel Hyde.

Dónal is in demand as an organ recitalist, giving recitals in the UK and abroad, most recently in Westminster Abbey and opening the restored organ of the church of St Lawrence in Malta. He achieved the Fellowship of the Royal College of Organists aged 17. He is co-principal keyboardist of the Oxford Bach Soloists, one of the UK’s leading early music groups, which recently released its debut recording on Signum Records. His debut solo album of organ works by Bach and Walther was met with critical acclaim: “Every aspect of it glistens...McCann's playing is authoritative as well as attractive and a wonderful showcase for his talents"– Gramophone Magazine.

He is also an award-winning composer, winning the Peter Tranchell Composition Prize 2023, and the Jesus College, Cambridge Hadfield prize. His music was recently performed by the BBC Singers on BBC Radio 3.

As Head of Chapel Music at Winchester College, Dónal is responsible for chapel music provision at the college, including directing the chapel choir and training the Quiristers: the college’s boy choristers. Dónal also directs the college’s chantry choir and leads the college’s choral partnerships programme. He is always happy to hear from prospective quiristers and their families.