The following interview with
MARIN ALSOP
was conducted by the Library of Congress
on April 2, 2020

Library of Congress: One of your mentors was the great Leonard Bernstein, also a
member of the National Registry. What was the single best advice he ever gave you?

Marin Alsop: Bernstein gave me so much great advice, but the best advice he gave me was to
always be myself. Stand up for what I believe in and be a strong citizen of the world.

LOC: You've conducted many works by Jennifer Higdon over the years. How was
Percussion Concerto different from some of the other works of hers you have taken on?

MA: Jennifer’s music is always compelling, but this collaboration between Jennifer and Colin
is on fire! (I introduced them by the way!)

LOC: How many rehearsals, with the full orchestra and with Colin Currie, were you able
to have before the recording was made?

MA: We had the regular number of rehearsals for an LPO program but that was for the entire
program: four rehearsals.

LOC: This recording was done with the London Philharmonic. Is there a difference
between conducting a British orchestra versus an American one?

MA: I love working with British musicians. Their work ethic and sense of humor are
unparalleled!