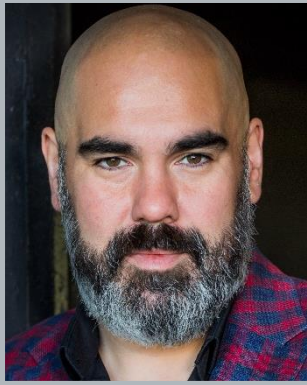


Ben Thapa

TENOR



Ben Thapa studied at the Guildhall School of Music and the Royal College of Music before graduating from the Wales International Academy of Voice in 2013 under the tutelage of Dennis O'Neill. His major bursars include the Musicians Benevolent Fund, the Leverhulme Trust and the Wagner Society. He has participated in a number of masterclasses, including Kiri Te Kanawa, Della Jones, Amanda Roocroft, Jonathan Dove (for Music Theatre Wales) and Graham Clark. In addition, Ben was twice a Britten-Pears scholar. He continues his study privately with David Pollard.

Highlights in recent seasons include **Arbace** *Idomeneo* and **Aufidio** *Lucio Silla* for Buxton Festival; **Siegfried** in *The Quest for the Ring*: scenes from *Siegfried* and *Götterdämmerung* at the Royal Festival Hall in association with Opera North; and **Melot** *Tristan und Isolde* for Longborough Festival Opera.

Operatic credits include **President** *Mittwoch aus Licht* (Birmingham Opera/BBC Proms); **Kuzka** *Khovanschina* (Birmingham Opera Company), **Tito** *La clemenza di Tito* (Teatru Manoel, Malta); **Tamino** *The Magic Flute* (Regents Opera, Ryedale Festival, Garsington Emerging Artists); **Vanya Kudrjash** *Katya Kabanova* (Scottish Opera); **Cavaradossi** *Tosca* and **Don José** *Carmen* (Minack Theatre); **First Armed Man** *The Magic Flute* (Garsington Opera); **Dick Johnson** *Fanciulla del West* (OperaUpClose) and **Mat of the Mint** *The Beggar's Opera* (The Royal Opera).

Roles understudied include **Actaeon** *Diana and Actaeon* (The Royal Opera); **Max** *Der Freischütz* (Opéra Comique), Paris); **Florestan** *Fidelio* and **Tamino** *The Magic Flute* (Garsington Opera), **Kunz Vogelgesang** *The Mastersingers of Nuremberg* (English National Opera); **Florestan** *Leonore* and **Bajazet** *Tamerlano* (Buxton Festival); and the tenor roles in Philip Glass' *The Trial* for Music Theatre Wales at the Royal Opera and on tour.

Concert performances include Monteverdi *Vespers* (Monteverdi Choir); Handel *Messiah* (Royal Albert Hall, Hanover Band, Manchester Camerata); Beethoven *9th Symphony* (St. David's Hall, Cardiff); Elgar *Dream of Gerontius* (Tewkesbury Abbey); Vaughan Williams *Serenade to Music* (Royal Festival Hall); Rossini *Petite messe solennelle* (Jesus College Cambridge); Rachmaninov *The Bells* (King's College Cambridge); Mozart *C Minor Mass* (St. John's Smith Square); Mozart *Requiem* (Royal Albert Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall); Verdi *Requiem* (Saffron Hall, G-Live Guildford); Britten *St. Nicolas* (Wakefield Cathedral); and a Leeds Town Hall recital with Dr. Simon Lindley.

In the current season Ben will understudy **Anatole** *War and Peace* for Welsh National Opera, performs **Monostato** *Die Zauberflöte* for Opera be Baugé, and continues his busy concert schedule with choral societies across the country.

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(389 words)