

Njabulo Madlala

BARITONE



Njabulo Madlala was born in Durban, South Africa. In 2002 he won a scholarship to study at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama for graduate and postgraduate studies. He went on to study for a further year at the Cardiff International Academy of Voice with Dennis O'Neill. Additionally, Njabulo has been a Britten-Pears Young Artist, a Samling Artist and a young artist at the Ravinia International Festival in the USA.

Among his accolades Njabulo is the winner of the 2010 Kathleen Ferrier Award, 2012 Singers Section Final of the Royal Overseas League Competition, the 2012 Lorna Viol Memorial Prize, the Royal Overseas League Trophy for the most outstanding musician from overseas and Standard Bank Young Artist Award for 2014.

Highlights in recent seasons include **Jim Porgy and Bess** for English National Opera and the Dutch National Opera; **Aeneas Dido** for English National Opera / Unicorn Theatre; Various roles in Shostakovich's *The Nose* for The Royal Opera; **Aswini Twin 2 Sukanya** for The Royal Opera / London Philharmonic Orchestra; and Beethoven *Symphony No. 9* with the Minnesota Orchestra.

Operatic roles include **Schaunard** *La bohème* and **Bartolomeo** *Il furioso all'isola di San Domingo* (English Touring Opera); Orlando Gough's *Voices and Votes* (Bergen National Opera); the title role in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* (Mid Wales Opera); **Don Fernando** *Fidelio*, **Bello** *La fanciulla del West* and **Schaunard** *La bohème* (Opera Holland Park); **Whale** and **Elephant** *How the Whale Became* and **Master of the Thames Boat** *Heart of Darkness* (Royal Opera House, Linbury Theatre); **Kammersinger** *Intermezzo* (Buxton International Festival); **Peachum** *The Threepenny Opera* (Hawaii Performing Arts Festival); **Scarpia** *Tosca* (Grange Park Opera's 'Rising Stars'); **Rangwan** in Delius's *Koanga* (Sadler's Wells Theatre); **Don Giulio** in Rossini's *L'ajo nell'imbarazzo* (Barga International Festival) and **Mel** in Tippett's *The Knot Garden* (Montepulciano Festival); **Escamillo** (Winslow Hall Opera); **Moralès** (Dorset Opera Festival); and **Porgy** *Porgy and Bess* at the Cheltenham Festival.

In recital Njabulo has performed with Roger Vignoles (Cambridge Festival and Lugo Festival in Spain), Julius Drake (Mananan Festival), Williams Vann (Oxford Lieder Festival and Ripon International Festival), Simon Lepper (Wigmore Hall Monday Concert Series and Buxton Festival), Llŷr Williams (Gower Festival) and with James Baillieu (Lake District Music Festival). His debut CD *Songs of Home* was released in autumn 2013 on the Champs Hill Records label.

Concert highlights include Mozart *Requiem* (English Chamber Orchestra, London Mozart Players and Royal Philharmonic Orchestra); Mahler *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* (London Philharmonic Orchestra / Vladimir Jurowski); Beethoven *Symphony No. 9* (Royal Philharmonic Orchestra); *Belshazzar's Feast* at the Three Choirs Festival (Philharmonia Orchestra) and Royal Festival Hall (Royal Philharmonic Orchestra); *Messiah* (Philharmonia Orchestra); *Elijah* at the Snape Maltings; J. S. Bach *Ich habe genug* (Ten Tors Orchestra); *Dido and Aeneas* at (Wimbledon International Music Festival); and concerts with the KwaZulu Natal Philharmonic Orchestra under Arjan Tien and Richard Cock.

In the current season Njabulo performs **Aswini Twin 2 Sukanya**, with the London Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall and returns to English National Opera as **Prince Yamadori** in Anthony Minghella's production of *Madam Butterfly*.

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