

Philip Smith

BARITONE



One-time zoologist and National Otter Surveyor of England, Philip Smith hung up his waders to study singing, first at the Birmingham Conservatoire and then with Barbara Robotham at the Royal Northern College of Music, graduating with distinction in 2008. He is a Britten-Pears Young Artist Programme alumnus, Samling Artist and Crear Scholar. He continues to study with Robert Dean.

Highlights in recent seasons include **Endymion/Charon** *Orpheus* for the Royal Opera House at The Globe; **Sid** *Albert Herring* for Maggio Musicale Fiorentino; **Der Sprecher** *Die Zauberflöte* for Opera di Firenze; **Witness 6** *Icarus* at the Montepulciano Festival; **Papageno** in *Die Zauberflöte* at the Teatro Petruzzelli di Bari; **Gratiano** in *The Merchant of Venice* for the Polish National Opera; and **Sharpless** *Madame Butterfly* for Iford Arts.

His operatic roles include **Junius** *The Rape of Lucretia* (Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Reggio Emilia and Ravenna); **Sid** *Albert Herring* (Royal Danish Opera directed by Keith Warner) and **Harlekin** *Ariadne auf Naxos* (Montepulciano Festival). Other roles include **Don Giovanni**, **Forester** *Cunning Little Vixen*, **Eugene Onegin**, **Leone** *Tamerlano*, **Figaro** *Le nozze di Figaro*, **Escamillo** and **Moralès** *Carmen*, **Ramiro** *L'heure espagnole* and **Macheath** *The Threepenny Opera*. Roles understudied include **Figaro** *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (Scottish Opera); title role in *Don Giovanni* and **Valentin** *Faust* (Opera North); and **Arthur Jones** *Billy Budd*, **Herman Ortel** *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and **Le Dancaire** *Carmen* (Glyndebourne).

In concert Philip has performed with orchestras including the Hallé, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic's Ensemble 10/10, Manchester Camerata and the Northern Sinfonia with conductors including Sir Mark Elder, Clark Rundell, David Hill and Nicholas Kraemer. Recent performances include Rossini *Petite messe solennelle*, Haydn *The Creation*, Fauré *Requiem*, Bach *B Minor Mass*, Walton *Belshazzar's Feast*, Vaughan Williams *Five Mystical Songs* and Tippett *A Child of Our Time*.

Philip appears regularly in recital with pianists including Roger Vignoles, Malcolm Martineau and Joseph Middleton. He has performed in Santiago de Compostela, Dubai and he is a regular guest at the Uzerche International Festival (France). He has appeared at a number of major UK festivals including the Aldeburgh Festival, Leeds Lieder, Oxford Lieder, the Cheltenham Festival and at Wigmore Hall.

Broadcasts on BBC Radio 3 include **Aeneas** *Dido & Aeneas*, a song recital from the Aldeburgh Festival with Malcolm Martineau and a live broadcast on *In Tune*. His recordings include *Britten Songs Volume 1* (Onyx Classics) and several tracks on the Vaughan Williams disc *Fair Child of Beauty* (Albion Records).

Philip regularly takes part in education and community projects, he has worked with the education departments at Glyndebourne Festival Opera, Opera North, Leeds Lieder + Festival, Wigmore Hall, La Folia and with Theatre Royal Norwich on their Norfolk school projects.

In the current season Philip performs **Nottingham's Confidant** *Roberto Devereux* for Welsh National Opera, **Sharpless** *Madama Butterfly* on tour for Diva Opera, and song recitals at Ripon Cathedral and for Penrith Music Society.

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