

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Jeffrey Howard

Accompanist

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Jeffrey Howard was born in Cardiff and studied at the University of Wales College, Cardiff and Royal Academy of Music, London, specializing in organ performance and Church Music. He now pursues a career as organist, pianist, singer, coach and conductor and has accompanied leading international singers including Bryn Terfel, Sir Willard White, Dennis O'Neill, Nuccia Focile, Rebecca Evans, Wynne Evans, Alfie Boe and Jason Howard.

Jeff has performed in concert halls and cathedrals throughout the UK and Europe and has worked as solo pianist, organist and arranger with orchestras including The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Orchestra of Welsh National Opera and the Budapest Symphony Orchestra.

He is an active organ recitalist in the UK and recently performed the Saint-Saens Organ Symphony with the Orchestra of Welsh National Opera at St David's Cathedral, Pembrokeshire. Jeff also made three appearances as organist at the 2013 Welsh Proms in Cardiff. In 1996, he was Guest Artist in Residence at First United Methodist Church, Lubbock, Texas which involved many organ recitals and television and radio appearances.

For the last twenty years, Jeff has been a vocal coach at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Welsh National Opera and Welsh National Youth Opera. He worked on the opening production of *La Traviata* at the Wales Millennium Centre for Welsh National Opera. Jeff also coaches at the Wales International Academy of Voice and on the Music Theatre Course at RWCMD. He is a Vocal Tutor at Bristol University, Musical Director of the 200 voice St David's Praise Choir and Orchestra, Cambrensis Choir and the world famous Treorchy Male Voice Choir.

Jeff's skills as arranger and orchestrator are in great demand and he frequently provides pieces for the BBC National Orchestra and Chorus of Wales, BBC One's Songs of Praise, numerous S4C productions and various solo artists. As accompanist, singer and arranger for Only Men Aloud he twice toured the UK with them in 2009 and released two albums on the Universal label. OMA's second album, 'Band of Brothers' included many of Jeff's arrangements and won a Classical Brit Award in 2010.

Jeff is also involved in music theatre and cabaret work and has accompanied artists such as Michael Ball, John Owen-Jones, Shân Cothi, Rhydian Roberts, Connie Fisher, Ruth Madoc and Dame Shirley Bassey.

Jeff is a recipient of the Joseph Parry Award, given by the Welsh Music Guild for his services to music in Wales and he appears in the International Who's Who in Music.

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