

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Rhodri Prys Jones

Tenor

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Welsh tenor Rhodri Prys Jones will make his professional operatic début this season with Welsh National Opera as **Fyodor / Ivanov** in *War & Peace* and cover **Ramiro** in *La Cenerentola*.

Rhodri initially studied for a degree in Music and Media at Trinity University College, Carmarthen and subsequently completed an M.A. Vocal Studies degree at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London. He completed his studies on the Opera Performance Course at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Cardiff, where he was taught by Adrian Thompson.

Roles whilst at the RWCMD include **Tamino** in *The Magic Flute*; **Ramiro** in *La Cenerentola*; **Rinuccio** in *Gianni Schicchi*; **Sam Kaplan** in Weill's *Street Scene*; **Jupiter** in *Semele*, a co-production between Mid Wales Opera and RWCMD in association with the Academy of Ancient Music. Other roles include **Nemorino** in *L'elisir d'amore* and **Triquet** and **Lensky** cover in *Eugene Onegin* for Opra Cymru. In opera scenes, he has performed **Ferrando** in *Così fan tutte*, **Jenik** in *Bartered Bride*, **Almaviva** in *Barber of Seville*, **Jaquino** in *Fidelio*, **Harlequin** in *Der Kaiser Von Atlantis*, **Robert Devereux** in *Gloriana* and **El Remendado** in *Carmen*.

Rhodri's Chorus experience includes *Don Pasquale* with Longborough Festival Opera and *Francesca Di Foix*, *The Adventures of Pinocchio*, *San Giovanni Batista* and *The Cunning Peasant* with Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

2016 saw Rhodri join Garsington Opera as an Alvarez Young Artist where his performances included chorus member in Rossini's *L'italiana in Algeri* and Haydn's *The Creation*. In 2015 he joined Welsh National Opera as a member of an eight-part ensemble in *Gair ar Grawd* by Pwyll ap Sion.

Rhodri is a popular concert artist. Highlights include his Royal Albert Hall début, performing as guest soloist at the London Welsh Festival of Male Choirs and a Gala Dinner performance for HRH Prince Charles. Rhodri's concert repertoire includes Handel's *Messiah*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Stainer's *Crucifixion*, Bruckner's *Mass in F Minor*, Gounod's *Petite Messe Solennelle*, Puccini's *Messa Di Gloria*, Haydn's *The Seasons*, Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music*, Mozart's *Requiem* and Orff's *Carmina Burana*.

He has given several world premieres of works including Edward Rhys Harry's *Mass of the Martyrs* and Eilir Owen Griffiths' *In Memoriam*. In 2017, he recorded a new Welsh language translation of J. S. Bach's *St John Passion* ('*Dioddefaint yn ôl Ioan*') in Llandaff Cathedral for broadcast on S4C. Other TV broadcasts include performances on 'Noson Lawen', 'Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol' and 'Heno' for S4C and performing at the UK Ceremony of Remembrance 'Centenary of Passchendaele, Third Battle of Ypres' live on BBC One from Passchendaele.

Prizes and awards include the 2017 Ian Stoutzker Prize, which is awarded annually for the most outstanding musician at RWCMD, the Janet Price Opera Prize, the Glynne Jones Scholarship and the Busenhart Morgan-Evans Worshipful Company Award.

Rhodri is kindly supported by the Help Musicians Sybil Tutton Award and the Dame Shirley Bassey Award.

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