

# ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

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## Steffan Lloyd Owen

Baritone

Artist Manager: Sioned Jones

[sioned.jones@harlequin-agency.co.uk](mailto:sioned.jones@harlequin-agency.co.uk)



Steffan Lloyd Owen is a Welsh Baritone from Pentre Berw on the Isle of Anglesey in North Wales. Having received initial training from Sian Wyn Gibson, he is currently studying at the Royal Northern College in Manchester, where he is taught by Nicholas Powell. During his first year, Steffan won the Elsie Thurston competition and was later selected to represent the RNCM at the Kathleen Ferrier Awards in Blackburn, where, after fierce competition from 15 other soloists from various universities and conservatoires in the UK, was awarded first place – the second student from the RNCM to ever win the competition.

Steffan has been awarded with major vocal prizes in Wales, namely the W. Towyn Roberts Scholarship Prize, the Blue Riband Osborne Roberts Memorial Prize at the National Eisteddfod of Wales and the most promising young singer scholarship at the Urdd National Eisteddfod. As part of the Osborne Roberts Scholarship prize, Steffan performed as a soloist at the North America Festival of Wales in New York in August 2017. Steffan visited Patagonia in 2014 where he won the first prize in the Open Solo Competition at the National Eisteddfod of Patagonia (Argentina).

In 2017, Steffan performed the roles of **Sciarrone** and **Jailer** in a semi-staged production of Tosca alongside Sir Bryn Terfel and Kristine Opolais with the Orchestra of Welsh National Opera at the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod. Other roles include **Zaretsky** in *Eugene Onegin* and **El Dancairo** in *Carmen*, both abbreviated Welsh language translated productions for Opra Cymru and **George Jones** in *Street Scene* at the RNCM. This season, he performs the role of the lawyer **Ser Amantio Di Nicolao** in *Gianni Schicci* at the RNCM.

Next year, Steffan will embark on an exciting new project with Welsh National Opera. WNO, S4C, Rondo Productions and Severn Screen have commissioned an original Welsh language opera film commemorating 100 years since the death of Hedd Wyn - a Welsh language poet who was killed near Ypres, Belgium, during the Battle of Passchendaele in World War I. Steffan will play the Title Role of *Hedd Wyn*. The film will be broadcast on S4C, BBC iPlayer and in 20 cinemas across Wales. The project brings together award winning composer Stephen McNeff, Internationally renowned composer Gruff Rhys (Super Furry Animals) and International Director Marc Evans.

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