

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Elgan Llŷr Thomas

Tenor

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2017/18 English National Opera Harewood Artist, Elgan Llŷr Thomas made his ENO début at Regent's Park Open Air Theatre as **Prologue/Peter Quint** in *The Turn of the Screw* and performed the role of **Johnny Inkslinger** in Britten's *Paul Bunyan* at Wilton's Music Hall as part of the ENO Studio Live Series. This Season he will make his stage début at the London Coliseum with ENO as **Normanno** in *Lucia di Lammermoor*. Last season he made his house début as **Count Almaviva** in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Paris and his role début as **Brighella** in *Ariadne auf Naxos* for Scottish Opera and Opera Holland Park. He also made his role début as **Ernesto** in *Don Pasquale* at the Mananan International Festival of Music and the Arts on the Isle of Man. Future plans include **Count Almaviva** in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* for Opéra de Bordeaux and his role début as **Tom Rakewell** in a semi-staged performance of *The Rake's Progress* with the Equilibrium Young Artists conducted by founder and soprano, Barbara Hannigan at the Klara Festival in Brussels, Ojai Festival in California and at the Aldeburgh Festival in the UK.

In 2016, Elgan joined Scottish Opera as an Emerging Artist and made his company and role début as **Nemorino** in their touring production of *The Elixir of Love*. A graduate of the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester and London's Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London, Elgan's operatic roles include **Spoletta** in a semi-staged concert performance of *Tosca* at the 2017 Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod with the Orchestra of Welsh National Opera, Sir Bryn Terfel and Kristine Opolais; **Lindoro** in *The Italian Girl in Algiers* and **Count Almaviva** in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* for the Mananan International Festival; **Fenton** in a semi-staged performance of *Falstaff* with the Cambridge Philharmonic Society; **Titorelli/Flogger/Berthold** in *The Trial* for Scottish Opera; and covered the roles of **Lensky** in *Eugene Onegin*, **Binet** in *Vert-Vert* and **Selimo** in *Maometto Secondo* for Garsington Opera. Other operatic performances include **Florindo** in *Le donne curiose* and **Male Chorus** in *The Rape of Lucretia* for the Guildhall School of Music and Drama; **Title Role** in *Albert Herring* and **Lampwick** in *The Adventures of Pinocchio* for the Royal Northern College of Music and **Johnny Inkslinger** in the Welsh National Youth Opera's Britten Centenary production of *Paul Bunyan*.

On demand on the concert platform, Elgan has performed in a Gala Concert with the Xi'an Symphony Orchestra in China; **Orbin** in Elgar's *Caractacus* with the Opera North Orchestra, conducted by Martyn Brabbins; Sir Karl Jenkins' *The Armed Man, Mass for Peace* with the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by the composer at Liverpool's Philharmonic Hall; Tippett's *A Child of our Time* at the Dartington International Summer Festival, conducted by Paul McCreesh and a concert with Sir Bryn Terfel at Bangor University. Future engagements include Mozart's *Requiem* with the Danish National Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Barbara Hannigan at the DR Koncerthuset, Copenhagen.

Elgan is a recipient of a 2017/18 Opera Awards Foundation Bursary. Other awards include the 2015 Stuart Burrows International Voice Award; the Kerry-Keane Prize and the Audience Prize at the 2015 Les Azuriales Opera Young Artists programme in Nice and the 2012 Clonter Opera Prize. He has also had considerable success at the National Eisteddfod of Wales and during his first year at the RNCM, he represented the College at the 2009 Kathleen Ferrier Bursary Award and won the Elsie Thurston Prize. He is one of the first recipients of a Study Award from the Bryn Terfel Foundation.

Elgan is a familiar face on Welsh language television channel, S4C and performed a duet with Sir Bryn Terfel on his 2010 Christmas TV show, *Nadolig Bryn Terfel*.

He has released an album of Welsh Songs called *Llwybrau'n Cân* on the SAIN label and in 2017 recorded songs by Gareth Glyn on the album *Caneuon Gareth Glyn*, again for SAIN.

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