

# ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

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## Meilir Jones

Bass-Baritone

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Originally from Llangefni on the Isle of Anglesey, Meilir Jones graduated with a First Class Hons B.Mus. Vocal Studies degree from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff, where his studies were kindly supported by Quilter, Wealth Manager FTA Advisers. He is one of the first recipients of a Study Award from the Bryn Terfel Foundation and has also received generous financial support from the Arts Council of Wales and the Sickle Foundation – support he is extremely grateful for. Meilir recently completed his postgraduate studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London. He will be returning to the Royal Academy in September to complete the Professional Diploma in Opera Studies.

Meilir recently performed the role of **Plunkett** in Friedrich von Flotow's *Martha* with Burry Port Opera. His other operatic credits include **Belcore** in a Welsh language touring production of *The Elixir of Love* and **Zaretsky** in *Eugene Onegin* for Opra Cymru; cover **Anwar** and semi chorus in *Gair ar Grawd*, a new Welsh opera by contemporary composer, Pwyll ap Siôn for Welsh National Opera; **Dewi** in the World Premiere of *The Hidden Valley* by Richard Barnard in association with Welsh National Opera for Tête à Tête: The Opera Festival in London and **Speaker** in *The Magic Flute* with the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama at Sherman Theatre in Cardiff. Next season, he will perform the roles of **Jailer** and **Sciarrone** in a semi-staged production of *Tosca* with Sir Bryn Terfel, Kristine Opolais and Vittorio Grigolo at the Abu Dhabi Festival. He will also cover the role of **Figaro** in *Le nozze di Figaro* for The Grange Festival.

Meilir has won numerous awards, including the 2014 Association of English Singers & Speakers' Courtney Kenny Award and a scholarship for the most promising young singer at the Urdd National Eisteddfod; the International Medal for the under 21 vocal solo at the 2011 Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod and the Blue Riband Osborne Roberts Memorial Prize for singers under twenty five years of age at the 2011 National Eisteddfod of Wales. He recently won the third prize in The Patricia Routledge National English Song Competition 2018 and was also highly commended in the 2017 Marjorie Thomas Art of Song Prize at the Royal Academy of Music.

Recent highlights include performing as part of a trio to mark the Passchendaele Centenary at *Tyne Cot Cemetery in Belgium*, which was broadcast live on BBC 1. Other concert highlights include bass soloist for the first performance of Handel's *Messiah* at the Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff, a concert at the Royal Festival Hall as part of Sir Bryn Terfel's 'Brynfest' at the Southbank Centre and soloist in the BBC Radio Cymru Christmas Concert with soprano Rebecca Evans and tenor Gwyn Hughes Jones and soloist at the Festival of Male Choirs at the Royal Albert Hall, London.

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