

# ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

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## Meilir Jones

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. This season Meilir commenced his postgraduate studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London.

Meilir started competing in eisteddfodau at an early age and in 2010 received the scholarship for the most promising young singer at the Urdd National Eisteddfod. Meilir was recently highly commended in the 2017 Marjorie Thomas Art of Song Prize at the Royal Academy of Music. Other awards include the 2014 Association of English Singers & Speakers' Courtney Kenny Award, the International Medal for the under 21 vocal solo at the 2011 Llangollen International Eisteddfod and the Blue Riband Osborne Roberts Memorial Prize for singers under twenty five years of age at the 2011 National Eisteddfod of Wales. Meilir was also one of the first recipients of a Study Award from the Bryn Terfel Foundation in 2012. He has also received generous financial support from the Arts Council of Wales and the Sickle Foundation – support he is extremely grateful for.

Concert highlights include bass soloist for the first performance of Handel's *Messiah* at the Wales Millennium Centre, a concert at the Royal Festival Hall as part of Sir Bryn Terfel's Brynifest at the Southbank Centre and soloist in the BBC Radio Cymru Christmas Concert with soprano Rebecca Evans and tenor Gwyn Hughes Jones.

Meilir's operatic engagements include the role of **Dewi** in the premiere of *The Hidden Valley* by Richard Barnard in association with WNO for Tête à Tête: The Opera Festival in London, **Speaker** in *The Magic Flute* at the Sherman Theatre in Cardiff for the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, **Belcore** in a Welsh language touring production of *The Elixir of Love* and **Zaretsky** in *Eugene Onegin* for Opra Cymru and most recently understudy **Anwar** and Semi Chorus in *Gair ar Gnawd* by Pwyll ap Siôn for Welsh National Opera.

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