

# ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

## Trystan Iŷr Griffiths

Tenor

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Welsh Tenor Trystan Iŷr Griffiths initially studied for a degree in Theatre, Music and Media at Trinity University College, Carmarthen, subsequently completing a Master of Arts Vocal degree at the Royal Academy of Music in London and a postgraduate course in Opera Performance at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff, where he was taught by Adrian Thompson and Ingrid Surgenor. He completed his training at the National Opera Studio in London in 2015, where his studies were generously supported by Welsh National Opera. Trystan joined the International Opera Studio in Zürich for the 2016/17 season.

Trystan has won numerous awards, including the Second Prize in the prestigious Paris Opera Competition at the *Théâtre des Champs-Élysées* in Paris. In 2012, Trystan was named the 'Voice of Wales' by Decca Records after a search of over 600 singers in a series televised by S4C. He is also one of the first recipients of a Study Award from the Bryn Terfel Foundation. Other prizes and awards include the 2014 Ian Stoutzker Prize, which is awarded annually for the most outstanding musician at RWCMD; 2014 Bruce Millar Gulliver Singing Prize, 2013 RWCMD HRH Prince of Wales Scholarship, The 2013 Dunraven Welsh Young Singer of the Year Prize, The 2012 MOCSA Young Welsh Singer of the Year award, The 2012 Sybil Tutton Award and the 2011 W. Towyn Roberts scholarship at the National Eisteddfod.

Trystan made his professional operatic début in 2015 performing the role of **Ferrando** in Scottish Opera's touring production of *Così fan tutte*. He subsequently made his company and role début for Welsh National Opera as **Beppe** in *I Pagliacci* and also covered the role of **Nemorino** in *L'elisir d'amore* for Opera North. His various roles whilst in Zürich include **Beppe** in *I Pagliacci*, **Lehrer** in *Lady Macbeth von Mzensk*, **Servo d'Amelia** in *Un Ballo in Maschera* and **1st Brabantischer Edler** in *Lohengrin* for Zürich Opera. He also performed the roles of **Gonzalve** in *L'heure espagnole* and **La théière** in *L'enfant et les sortilèges* with the International Opera Studio at Theater Winterthur, Zürich. Other roles include **Carlos** in a recording of Donizetti's *Le Duc d'Albe* with the Hallé Orchestra conducted by Sir Mark Elder for Opera Rara and during summer 2015 he received a scholarship to attend the Mozart Residency at Festival d'Aix-en-Provence. Trystan's operatic roles at the RWCMD include **Tamino** in *The Magic Flute*, **Ferrando** in *Così fan tutte*, **Male Chorus** in *The Rape of Lucretia* and **Bill** in Jonathan Dove's *Flight*.

Concert highlights include his BBC Proms début in the 2016 Last Night of the Proms, singing Vaughan Williams' 'Serenade to Music', conducted by Sakari Oramo, a concert at the Hay on Wye Festival with Sir Bryn Terfel, a performance at 'Brynfest' at the Southbank Centre in London, the roles of **Shepherd** and **Melot** in a concert performance of Act 3 **Tristan und Isolde** with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Vasily Petrenko and recitals at St Martin-in-the-Fields and Cardiff Music Festival.

Recent engagements include the Huawei Winter Concert with Katherine Jenkins and the London Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall in London, Mozart *Requiem* with the Orchestre Prométhée at Festival de Lacoste and soloist. He also made his role and house début as **Kudryas** in *Katya Kabanova* at Opéra National de Lorraine. Trystan is also the tenor soloist in a recording of 'O Holy Night' with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to be included in Classic FM's Nations Favourite Carols Album, 2017.

Forthcoming plans include 2<sup>nd</sup> **Priest** and 1<sup>st</sup> **Armed Man** in *Die Zauberflöte* at the Festival d'Aix en Provence and for Dutch National Opera and **Kudryash** in *Katya Kabanová* with Scottish Opera.

Trystan recently signed a multi-album deal with Decca Records. His self-titled debut album was released on the SAIN label in 2015.

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