

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY



Sioned Gwen Davies

Mezzo-Soprano

Artist Manager: Sioned Jones
sioned.jones@harlequin-agency.co.uk

Welsh mezzo-soprano Sioned Gwen Davies represented Wales at the 2017 BBC Cardiff Singer of the World Competition. Born in Colwyn Bay, North Wales, she studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London and completed her training at the National Opera Studio in London, where she received generous financial support by the Glyndebourne Festival Opera. She is also thankful to The Worshipful Company of Girdlers for their kind sponsorship.

She made her professional operatic début in 2012 as **Margarida** in *The Yellow Sofa* for Glyndebourne Festival Opera's Jerwood Project, both in the Festival and on the autumn tour. In 2013 she performed **Kate** in *The Pirates of Penzance* with Scottish Opera and was subsequently offered an Emerging Artist Contract with the company for the 2013/14 season where her roles included **Edwige** in *Rodelinda* and **Third Witch** in *Macbeth*. She has since performed as a Guest Artist with the company in the roles of **Olga** in *Eugene Onegin*; **Stewardess** in *Flight*; **Third Dryad** in *Rusalka*; **Pitti-Sing** in *The Mikado* and was also a soloist on their Opera Highlights Tour of Scotland.

She made her Spanish début as **Olga** in *Eugene Onegin* with Opera Valladolid; performed **Second Lady** in *The Magic Flute* with Longborough Festival Opera; cover **Olga** in *Eugene Onegin* and **Annina** in *La Traviata* for Glyndebourne Festival Opera; cover **Edwige** in *Rodelinda* for English National Opera; **Title Role** in a Welsh language translation of **Carmen** at the National Eisteddfod of Wales with Opra Cymru; **Marcellina** in *Le nozze di Figaro* and **Frau Reich** in *Die Lustigen Weiber von Windsor* for British Youth Opera. Roles while at the GSMD include **Hermia** in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; **Marta** in *Iolanta*; **Mere Jeanne** in *Dialogues des Carmelites*; cover **Madame de Croissy** in *Dialogues des Carmelites* and cover **Florence Pike** in *Albert Herring*.

This season she returns to Scottish Opera as **Maddalena** in *Rigoletto* and **Third Lady** in *The Magic Flute*.

Concert highlights to date include Henze's *Voices* at the Barbican Hall, London; the Alto Solo in Stravinsky's *Les Noces* in LSO St. Lukes, London; Handel's *Messiah* with the Lund Chamber Choir in Sweden and Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music* accompanied by Graham Johnson. She has also performed in a concert in the presence of His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales at Caerphilly Castle.

Competition successes include first prize at the 2009 Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod, first prize at the 2009 National Eisteddfod of Wales and she was awarded the most outstanding performer at the 2009 North London Festival. She was also a finalist in The Jackdaws Great Elm Vocal Awards at London's Wigmore Hall and The Thelma King Award in Bath. Sioned Gwen is one of the first recipients of a Career Development Award from the Bryn Terfel Foundation.

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