

Philip Smith

BARITONE



One-time zoologist and National Otter Surveyor of England, Philip Smith hung up his waders to study singing, first at the Birmingham Conservatoire and then with Barbara Robotham at the Royal Northern College of Music, graduating with distinction in 2008. He is a former Britten Pears Young Artist, a Samling Artist and Creak Scholar.

In the current season he performs **Rambaldo** *La rondine* (Opera North, house debut); and **Germont Pere** *La traviata* (Diva Opera).

Among his recent highlights are **Rigoletto** (Diva Opera); **Michele** *Il tabarro*, **Marcello** *La bohème*, **King** *El Gato con Botas* (Mid Wales Opera); **Rambaldo** *La rondine* West Green House Opera, If Opera); **Conte Gil** *Il segreto di Susanna* (If Opera); and **Nottingham's Confidant** *Roberto Devereux* (Welsh National Opera).

His operatic roles include **Endymion/Charon** *Orpheus* (The Royal Opera/The Globe); **Junius** *The Rape of Lucretia* (Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Reggio Emilia, Ravenna); **Sid** *Albert Herring* (Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Royal Danish Opera); **Papageno** *Die Zauberflöte* (Teatro Petruzzelli di Bari); **Gratiano** *The Merchant of Venice* (Polish National Opera); **Der Sprecher** *Die Zauberflöte* (Opera di Firenze); **Sharpless** *Madame Butterfly* (Iford Arts, Diva Opera); **Giorgio** *Passion*, **Witness 6** *Icarus*, **Harlekin** *Ariadne auf Naxos* (Montepulciano Festival). Other roles include **Don Giovanni**, **Forester** *Cunning Little Vixen*, **Eugene Onegin**, **Leone** *Tamerlano*, **Figaro** *Le nozze di Figaro*, **Escamillo** and **Moralès** *Carmen*, **Ramiro** *L'heure espagnole*, **Macheath** *The Threepenny Opera*. Roles covered include **Figaro** *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and **Chou En-lai** *Nixon in China* (Scottish Opera); the title role in *Don Giovanni* and **Valentin** *Faust* (Opera North); and **Arthur Jones** *Billy Budd*, **Herman Ortel** *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and **Le Dancaire** *Carmen* (Glyndebourne).

In concert Philip has performed with orchestras including the Hallé, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic's Ensemble 10/10, Manchester Camerata and the Northern Sinfonia with conductors including Sir Mark Elder, Clark Rundell, David Hill and Nicholas Kraemer. His repertoire includes Rossini *Petite messe solennelle*, Haydn *The Creation*, Fauré *Requiem*, Bach *B Minor Mass*, Walton *Belshazzar's Feast*, Vaughan Williams *Five Mystical Songs* and Tippett *A Child of Our Time*.

Philip appears regularly in recital with pianists including Roger Vignoles, Malcolm Martineau and Joseph Middleton. He has performed in Santiago de Compostela, Dubai and he is a regular guest at the Uzerche International Festival (France). He has appeared at a number of major UK festivals including the Aldeburgh Festival, Leeds Lieder, Oxford Lieder, the Cheltenham Festival and at Wigmore Hall.

Broadcasts on BBC Radio 3 include **Aeneas** *Dido & Aeneas*, a song recital from the Aldeburgh Festival with Malcolm Martineau and a live broadcast on *In Tune*. His recordings include *Britten Songs Volume 1* (Onyx Classics) and Vaughan Williams *Fair Child of Beauty* (Albion Records).

Philip regularly takes part in education and community projects, he has worked with the education departments at Glyndebourne Festival Opera, Opera North, Leeds Lieder+, Wigmore Hall, La Folia and with Theatre Royal Norwich on their Norfolk school projects.

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