

PRESSQUOTES

Ronald Samm

TENOR

Father Grenville / Dead Man Walking / English National Opera / 2025
Cond. Kerem Hasan / Dir. Annilese Miskimmon

"Ronald Samm made his marks as an unctuous prison chaplain..."
(The Guardian / Clive Paget)

"Another notable performance came from the tenor Ronald Samm as a haughty Father Grenville..."
(Opera / Jonathan Cross)

"Smaller roles also saw great prowess from singers, such as Ronald Samm as a multi-dimensional Father Grenville."
(Opera Now / Hattie Butterworth)

"...there is sound support from Ronald Samm as Father Grenville"
(Opera Online / Sam Smith)

"Ronald Samm's compassionate Father Grenville... sharply etched, contributing to an ensemble without a weak link."
(MusicOMH / Keith McDonnell)

"The large cast includes strong cameos... Ronald Samm as Father Grenville..."
(The Financial Times / Richrd Fairman)

"The cast of characters widens out to include a prison chaplain (the Trinidadian tenor Ronald Samm in notably rich voice)..."
(London Theatre / Matt Wolf)

Shabby Peasant / Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk / BBC Proms / 2025
Cond. John Storgårds / Dir. Ruth Knight

"Ronald Samm gave a fine turn as the Shabby Peasant..."
(Planet Hugill)

"...there were entertaining 'turns' from Ronald Samm as the Shabby Peasant and Chuma Sijeqa as the Police Sergeant."
(MusicOMH / Sam Smith)

"...the drunken Shabby Peasant of tenor Ronald Samm a small virtuoso performance."
(FringeReview / Simon Jenner)

Reverend Horrace Adams / Peter Grimes / English National Opera / 2023
Cond. Martyn Brabbins / Dir. David Alden

"Horace Adams (Ronald Samm) ...precisely and dangerously drawn."
(The Telegraph / Nicholas Kenyon)

"The performance adds up to an enthralling whole, thanks to strong contributions from the rest of the cast... Ronald Samm's negligent Rector..."
(Operalogue / Hugh Canning)

Canio / Pagliacci / West Green House Opera / 2023
Cond. John Andrews / Dir. John Ramster

"Rightly dominating Pagliacci was Ronald Samm's Canio. From the first, when he strode onto the stage during lively opening, where the villagers are anticipating the coming of the pagliacci, Samm's suave actor/manager was the engaging centre of attention... Samm's Canio was slow burn, his big voice taking on more and more intensity till he snapped during the play... This was more than a consummate performance, it was an all consuming one..."
(Planet Hugill)

"Pagliacci is led by Ronald Samm's steadily disintegrating Canio, sung with tremendous authority in a portrayal that plumbs the depths of pity and terror. The tenor simply pours out the chief clown's misery in an intensely moving account of Vesti la Giubba."
(The Stage / George Hall)

"In Pagliacci there are fine performances from Jenny Stafford as Nedda, Ronald Samm as Canio..."
(MusicOMH / Sam Smith)

The Reverend / Blue / English National Opera / 2023
Cond. Matthew Kofi Waldren / Dir. Tinuke Craig

"There's also standout work from Ronald Samm as the Reverend..."
(The Stage / Inge Kjemtrup)

"Act 2 packs a virtually non-stop punch in the guts. It's immediately enriched by heroic tenor (and excellent Otello) Ronald Samm as "The Reverend""
(The Arts Desk / David Nice)

"Ronald Samm impresses as the Reverend..."
(The Guardian / Tim Ashley)

"The Reverend, a character brought vividly to life by Ronald Samm..."
(MusicOMH / Keith McDonnell)

"Ronald Samm gives a moving performance as The Reverend..."
(London Unattached / Adrian York)

"Ronald Samm's performance as the priest, eloquently unites words and music..."
(The Financial Times / Alastair Macauley)

"The priest who uses all that is good to counter the bereaved father's despair is a difficult role, little more than a cipher yet an important counterweight to the negativity, but he dominates Act 2. Tenor Ronald Samm inhabits him superbly with decency, humanity and musical power."
(Backtrack / Mark Valencia)

"Ronald Samm took the role of The Reverend, equally powerful... He is accorded a traditional aria ('May restoring waters ...'), beautifully sung..."
(Seen & Heard International / Colin Clarke)

"The singing throughout by the ten-strong cast is exemplary..."
(The Times / Richard Morrison)

Uncle Billy Bailey / It's a Wonderful Life / English National Opera / 2022
Cond. Nicole Paiement / Dir Aletta Collins

"...Ronald Samm makes a big vocal impact as Uncle Billy."
(The Arts Desk / David Nice)

"...Ronald Samm does a lovely job as bumbling Uncle Billy."
(The Observer / Stephen Pritchard)

"Ronald Samm gives a rounded performance as the haphazard Uncle Billy, with a palette of vocal colours varied enough to hit both comic and tragicomic musical beats."
(Operawire / Benjamin Poore)

"Ronald Samm's Uncle Billy... excellently sung..."
(Bachtrack / Matthew Rye)

"There were strong performances too from Ronald Samm as George's dim-witted uncle Billy..."
(Opera Today / Claire Seymour)

"There is also a nicely dishevelled performance from Ronald Samm as Uncle Billy."
(WhatsOnStage / Gareth Carr)

"Ronald Samm has a great cameo as Uncle Billy..."
(The Telegraph / Nicholas Kenyon)

"...there are keen cameos from Gweneth Ann Rand as George's mother and Ronald Samm as his Uncle Billy."
(The Financial Times / Richard Fairman)

Voltaire/Pangloss/Martin/Cacambo / Candide / Scottish Opera / 2022
Cond. Stuart Stratford / Dir. Jack Furness

"Ronald Samm, outstanding OTT as Pangloss..."
(The Scotsman / Ken Bruce)

"...superbly sung and characterised performances... Ronald Samm is a flamboyantly scarlet-suited Dr Pangloss..."
(The Guardian / Rowena Smith)

"Ronald Samm's pink-suited Pangloss made a suitably larger-than-life master of ceremonies."
(Opera / Andrew Clark)

"Boasting universally superb performances – not least from... Ronald Samm (Pangloss)"
(The Telegraph / Mark Brown)

"Ronald Samm's Dr Pangloss was a jive-talking huckster in a crimson zoot suit, suave without even trying."
(The Spectator / Richard Bratby)

"Ronald Samm plays Candide's companions with oversized vigour and gutsy energy..."
(The Times / Simon Thompson)

John Cumnor / The Aspern Papers / Pegasus Opera / 2022
Cond. Jan Rautio / Dir. Simone Ibbett-Brown

"Ronald Samm's immaculate diction... Samm's early cameo as John Cumnor, friend of Jonson and convenient expositionary device, set the bar high..."
(Opera / Alexandra Coghlan)

Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn / Crouch End Festival Chorus / 2022
Cond. David Temple

"...tenor Ronald Samm and mezzo Rebecca Afonwy-Jones were sensational"
(Ham & High / David Winskill)