

Simon Wilding

BASS



English bass Simon Wilding was born in Leigh, Lancashire and studied at the Royal Northern College of Music. He maintains an active performing career throughout the United Kingdom and internationally.

In the current season performances include his return to the Komische Oper Berlin for Barrie Kosky's production of *Die Nase*; and his debut at Garsington Opera as the **Police Commissar** in Bruno Ravello's production of *Der Rosenkavalier*.

Highlights in recent seasons include **Hagen** *Der Ring des Nibelungen* (Regents Opera); **Second Soldier** *Salome* (Royal Ballet & Opera); **Sparafucile** *Rigoletto* (Opera Holland Park); **Hunding** *Die Walküre* (Pacific Opera Victoria); **Fafner** *Das Rheingold*, *Siegfried* (Longborough Festival Opera); **The Doctor/Clerk** *The Nose* (Royal Danish Opera); numerous roles in Barrie Kosky's production of *The Nose*

(Royal Ballet & Opera, Komische Oper Berlin, Teatro Real); **Russell** *The Exterminating Angel* (Royal Danish Opera); **Sacristan** *Tosca* (Grange Park Opera); and **Pistol** *Falstaff*, **Judge Turpin** *Sweeney Todd* (West Green House Opera).

He made his debut at the Royal Ballet & Opera in 1997 as a **Brabantian Noble** *Lohengrin* (under Gergiev), followed by appearances as **A Cappadocian** *Salome* (under Christoph von Dohnányi) and **Hans Foltz** *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* (under Bernard Haitink). During his ongoing relationship with Royal Ballet & Opera other roles include **Lane/Merriman** in Gerald Barry's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, **Sciarrone** *Tosca*, **Ein Lackai** *Ariadne auf Naxos*, **Pinellino** *Gianni Schicchi*, **Gessler** *Guillaume Tell*, and **Oro** *Semiramide* (under Pappano). With English National Opera he appeared most recently in recently in Birtwistle's *The Mask Of Orpheus*, and with Opera Holland Park, and Mid Wales Opera he has performed operas by composers including Purcell, Rossini, Wagner, and Britten. With The Opera Group he made his mark in contemporary operas, most notably as the **Athlete** in Olga Neuwirth's *American Lulu* (Young Vic, Edinburgh International Festival, Bregenzer Festspiele).

On the international stage he made his professional debut in 1989 at the Bayreuther Festspiele where he was the youngest adult performer in the Festival's history. Other international engagements include **Jove** *La Calisto*, **Pluto**, **Caronte**, **Colonel** *Il pomo d'oro* (Batignano Festival); **Billy Jackrabbit** *La fanciulla del West*, **Provazolezec** in Hass' *Sarlatan*, **Wemburgo** in Zandonai's *I cavalieri di Ekebù* (Wexford Opera Festival); **Zaccaria** *Nabucco* (Macedonian National Opera); **Hobson** *Peter Grimes* (Beijing Music Festival); **Sciarrone** *Tosca* (Nederlandse Reisopera); and Jonathan Dove's *The Enchanted Pig* (New Victory Theatre, New York). In 2016 he returned to New York for the US stage premiere of *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

On the concert platform he has performed with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Ulster Orchestra, and at the Royal Albert Hall. His recorded works include live recordings of *Salome* and *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* (Royal Ballet & Opera); **Lieutenant Ratcliffe** *Billy Budd* (Hallé Orchestra); **Dick Deadeye** *HMS Pinafore* (D'Oyly Carte); and **Policeman** in Ethel Smyth's *The Boatswain's Mate* (Lontano Ensemble/Odaline de la Martinez).

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