



## James Way

### Tenor

Born in Sussex, tenor James Way was winner of the 2nd Prize in the 62nd Kathleen Ferrier Awards at Wigmore Hall. James is a former Britten-Pears Young Artist, a laureate of both the Les Arts Florissants 'Jardin des Voix' young artists programme and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment's Rising Stars award, and holds an Independent Opera Voice Fellowship.

A highly versatile performer, James is increasingly in demand on the concert platform in appearances spanning the breadth of the repertoire from the baroque to the present day with orchestras including the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonia, as well as further afield including L'Orchestre de chambre de Paris, the Munich Philharmonic, RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra, and Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra. His regular appearances with the BBC Symphony Orchestra have included the European premiere of Ross Harris *FACE*, Berlioz *Les nuits d'été*, works by Lili Boulanger, and Vaughan Williams *Serenade to Music* at the Last Night of the Proms.

James also regularly appears with many of the premier specialist early music ensembles across Europe, with recent highlights including *Handel Il Trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno* (Tempo) with the Freiburger Barockorchester under René Jacobs; *Handel Samson* (title role) with John Butt and the Dunedin Consort; Monteverdi *Vespers* with Laurence Cummings and the English Concert for Garsington Opera; and *Acis & Galatea* (Acis) with Les Arts Florissants; as well as *Messiah* tours with Trevor Pinnock and the FBO, and with William Christie and Les Arts Florissants.

Opera credits include his debuts with Staatsoper Berlin in Purcell *King Arthur* (AKAMUS and René Jacobs) and with the Philharmonia Orchestra and Jakub Hrůša as the Holy Fool *Boris Godunov* at the Royal Festival Hall; the Ballad Singer *Owen Wingrave* for the Aldeburgh and Edinburgh International Festivals (under Mark Wigglesworth), Gondolier *Death in Venice* and Davy in Roxanna Panufnik's new opera *Silver Birch* for Garsington Opera; *Vistola Fiume* and Pastore *La liberazione di Ruggiero* for the Brighton Early Music Festival; the Young King in George Benjamin's *Lessons in Love and Violence* at St Petersburg's Mariinsky Theatre; Sellem in a worldwide tour of *The Rake's Progress* under the baton of Barbara Hannigan, and *Il Trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno* (Tempo) for Opéra national de Montpellier under Thibault Noally. Future engagements include his house debut for Zurich Opera.

During the 20/21 season, James had been due to sing engagements including Stravinsky *Pulcinella* with the Munich Philharmonic under Barbara Hannigan and with the CBSO under Kazuki Yamada, Stanford *Requiem* with the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra, Bach *St Matthew Passion* (Evangelist) with the Lahti Symphony Orchestra under Andreas Sperring, *Messiah* with Charlotte Symphony Orchestra with Douglas Boyd and also with the Handel and Haydn Society Boston under Harry Christophers, Dove *There was a Child* with WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln, and Handel *Alcina* (Oronte cover) for Glyndebourne Festival Opera. He was also due to create the role of The King in the world premiere of Gerald Barry *Salome* with Barbara Hannigan and the LA Philharmonic, in LA, with further performances at Het Concertgebouw Amsterdam.

His debuts this season include Academy of St Martin in the Fields (*Messiah*), Copenhagen Philharmonic Orchestra and BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra



(Stravinsky *Pulcinella*), Grange Park Opera (Lechmere *Owen Wingrave*) and NDR Hamburg Chor for a programme of Charpentier/Lully with Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin. He also returns to the English Concert for Handel and Purcell arias with Harry Bicket.

James's recent recording of Purcell *The Fairy Queen* with the Gabrieli Consort and Players won high praise, and their subsequent recording of *King Arthur* won the Opera category at the 2020 BBC Music Magazine Awards, and was named Recording of the Year.

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