



Marcus Farnsworth

Baritone

Marcus Farnsworth was awarded first prize in the 2009 Wigmore Hall/Kohn Foundation International Song Competition and has appeared in recital at the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam, La Monnaie, Brussels with Julius Drake; on a UK tour of Schubert *Winterreise* with James Baillieu; for Leeds Lieder with Graham Johnson and at Opéra de Lille with Simon Lepper. He has appeared many times at Wigmore Hall with Malcolm Martineau, Julius Drake and Graham Johnson, the Myrthen Ensemble and Joseph Middleton and with the Carducci Quartet.

This season includes a return to English National Opera for Bill Bobstay in Gilbert and Sullivan *HMS Pinafore*; a European tour of Purcell *King Arthur* and *The Fairy Queen* with Vox Luminis; a French baroque programme with the Academy of Ancient Music and Peter Whelan; an Oxford Lieder recital presenting Cheryl Frances-Hoad's new song cycle *Everything Grows Extravagantly*; *Winterreise* with Martin Roscoe for Manchester Chamber Concerts Society and a Dame Myra Hess concert at Wigmore Hall with the Nash Ensemble.

Last season highlights included performances of Bach *St John Passion* with the Antwerp Symphony Orchestra; Guglielmo *Così fan tutte* at Longborough Opera, and Colin Matthews *The Great Journey* at the Worcester Three Choirs Festival. On the recital platform he appeared with James Baillieu in a BBC Lunchtime recital and at Wigmore Hall with James Cheung.

Marcus has worked regularly with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, most notably in Turnage *The Silver Tassie*, the world premiere of Cheryl Hoad's *Last Man Standing* and Hubbard in John Adams' *Doctor Atomic* conducted by the composer. With the London Symphony Orchestra he appeared in concert performances of Bernstein *Candide* conducted by Marin Alsop and for the 2017 BBC Proms, Marcus performed Maxwell Davies *Eight Songs for a Mad King* with the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group conducted by Sian Edwards. Outside the UK he has performed in Cologne with the Aurora Orchestra and Nicholas Collon in HK Gruber's *Frankenstein!!* and made his debut at Teatro Real Madrid in Kurt Weill *Street Scene*.

Previous operatic roles include Guglielmo *Così fan tutte* and Strephon *Iolanthe* for ENO; Sid in Britten *Albert Herring* in concert with the BBC SO and Ned Keene *Peter Grimes* at Edinburgh International Festival and on tour and recorded with the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Edward Gardner; Demetrius A *Midsummer Night's Dream* on tour with the Aix-en-Provence Festival and Eddy in Turnage *Greek* for Boston Lyric Opera.

Marcus's expansive concert repertoire includes Britten *War Requiem*; Elgar *The Apostles*; Orff *Carmina Burana*; Berlioz *L'enfance du Christ* and the Brahms and Fauré *Requiem* with conductors including François-Xavier Roth, Paul McCreesh and Bernard Labadie. He has also sung Bach *St John Passion* (bass arias) with the Ulster Orchestra; Bach *St Matthew Passion* and *St John Passion* (bass arias and Christus) with the Gabrieli Consort and Monteverdi *Vespers* on tour with Emmanuelle Haïm.

Marcus is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Southwell Music Festival.

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