



Sunnyboy Dladla

Tenor

Sunnyboy Dladla was born in the township of Piet Retief in KwaZulu-Natal province, South Africa.

He made his successful BBC Proms debut in the 2018 festival with the London Symphony Orchestra and Sir Simon Rattle, in the roles of Bete/Le petit vieillard/La théière/La rainette in Ravel *L'enfant et les sortilèges*, after which Richard Morrison wrote in *The Times* '... a fine cast produced a host of terrific cameos, with Jane Archibald and Sunnyboy Dladla particularly catching the ear'. He later reprised these roles with the LSO and Rattle at the Lucerne Festival.

For the 2018-19 season he joins the Ensemble at Theater Dortmund where he will sing Almaviva and Pong *Turandot*; and he will also return to Oper Leipzig to sing Almaviva. Future plans include Almaviva for Staatsoper Hannover, and Xailoun in Offenbach *Barkouf* for Oper Köln. Concert plans include *Carmina Burana* with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and at the Grand Teton Music Festival in the USA, both with Donald Runnicles; and with the London Symphony Orchestra and Gianandrea Nosedà.

For the 2012/13 and 2013/14 seasons he was a member of the International Opera Studio of Zurich Opera and roles for the main house included Arturo in Donizetti *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Dorvil in Rossini *La Scala di Seta*, Nick in Puccini *La Fanciulla del West*, 1. Junger Offizier in Zimmermann *Die Soldaten* and Kutscher and Vorarbeiter in Shostakovich *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*.

Since leaving the studio in 2014 Sunnyboy has sung Paolino in Cimarosa *Il Matrimonio Segreto* and Il Conte di Libenskof *Il viaggio a Reims* for Zurich Opera; Belfiore in Rossini *Il viaggio a Reims* with Alberto Zedda for the Accademia Rossiniana at the Pesaro Rossini Festival; Count Almaviva for Stuttgart Opera, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Den Norske Opera, Wiesbaden Opera and Bucharest National Opera; and Basilio and Curzio in Mozart *Le Nozze di Figaro* at Theater an der Wien, conducted by Marc Minkowski. More recently he has sung Don Ramiro in Rossini *La Cenerentola* for Opera North, Oper Leipzig and Stuttgart Opera; the roles of Osiride (Bregenz Festival) and Aronne (Oper Köln) in Rossini *Mosè in Egitto*; and the roles of Andrès / Cochenille / Frantz / Pitichinaccio in *Tales of Hoffmann* in his debut with Dutch National Opera.

He made his US debut singing Handel *Messiah* with the National Symphony Orchestra, Washington and Rolf Beck, which resulted in an immediate re-invitation to sing Mozart *Requiem* the following year with Christoph Eschenbach. Other concert performances include Schumann *Missa Sacra in C Min* at the Schleswig-Holstein Festival with Christopher Hogwood, a New Year Rossini Gala at Komische Oper, *Carmina Burana* and *Messiah* in Bucharest conducted by Cristian Macelaru, and a concert with Cecilia Bartoli in Bozar, Brussels, with repertoire by Mozart, Rossini and Donizetti.