



## James Way

### Tenor

Born in Sussex, tenor James Way was winner of the 2nd Prize in the 62<sup>nd</sup> Kathleen Ferrier Awards at Wigmore Hall. He was awarded the 2016 Simon Sandbach Award from Garsington Opera, and the 'most promising singer' award at the Dean and Chadlington Singing Competition. James is a former Britten-Pears Young Artist, a laureate of the 'Jardin des Voix' young artists programme of Les Arts Florissants, and holds an Independent Opera Voice Fellowship. He studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama with Susan Waters, following a First Class honours degree in music from King's College London.

A versatile performer, James is increasingly in demand on the concert platform in appearances spanning the breadth of the repertoire right up to the present day. Among them: Vaughan Williams Symphony No. 3 with City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra (under John Wilson), Mozart C Minor Mass with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (under Stephen Barlow), Vaughan Williams *Serenade to Music* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra (Last Night of the Proms) and with CBSO; new commission *Périple d'Hannon* by Arthur Levandier with L'Orchestre de Chambre de Paris, and the European premiere of Ross Harris' *FACE* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, with whom he performs Berlioz *Les nuits d'été* in 2019, conducted by Douglas Boyd.

Rapidly gaining recognition in the Baroque repertoire, James was awarded the Rising Stars prize by the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, with whom he has performed Jupiter in Handel's *Semele* under Christophe Roussett, Haydn *The Creation* under Adam Fischer, and various Bach Cantatas as part of the OAE's 'Bach, the Universe and Everything' series at Kings Place, London. Other recent highlights have included the title role in Handel's *Samson* at Misteria Paschalia Festival with the Dunedin Consort; the title role in *Acis & Galetea* with Les Arts Florissants; and Bach *St Matthew Passion* (arias) with Sir John Eliot Gardiner. This season and beyond James joins notable ensembles in concert including a *Messiah* tour with William Christie and Les Arts Florissants, Monteverdi Vespers with Laurence Cummings and the English Concert for Garsington Opera, Bach's *St Matthew Passion* (Evangelist) with Nicholas McGegan and RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra, performances and recordings of Purcell's *King Arthur* and *The Fairy Queen* with the Gabrieli Consort and Players, and Handel's *Il Trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno* (Tempo) with the Freiburger Barockorchester, under René Jacobs, and Opéra national de Montpellier, under Nathalie Stutzmann.

James's concert and recital work has taken him to Wigmore Hall, Cadogan Hall, Royal Festival Hall, Barbican Centre, Birmingham Symphony Hall, Lucerne KKL Concert Hall, L'Auditori Barcelona, Baluarte Pamplona, Leipzig Gewandhaus, Laeishalle Hamburg, Cité de la Musique, Théâtre des Champs Elysées, Bozar Brussels, Amsterdam Royal Concertgebouw, Wiener Konzerthaus, and Wiener Musikverein.

Opera credits include his debuts with Staatsoper Berlin in Purcell's *King Arthur* (Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin and René Jacobs); and with the Philharmonia Orchestra and Jakub Hrůša in the role of the Holy Fool/*Boris Godunov* at the Royal Festival Hall; the Ballad Singer/*Owen Wingrave* for the Aldeburgh and Edinburgh International Festivals (conducted by Mark Wigglesworth), *Gondolier/Death in Venice*, cover M. Triquet/*Eugene Onegin*, and the role of Davy in Roxanna Panufnik's new opera *Silver Birch* for Garsington Opera; Ferrando/*Così fan tutte* for Garsington Opera's Alvarez Young Artists Programme, and *Vistola Fiume* and *Pastore/La liberazione di Ruggiero* for the Brighton Early Music Festival. This



season James debuts the roles of the Young King in George Benjamin's *Lessons in Love and Violence* at St Petersburg's Mariinsky Theatre, and of Sellem in a worldwide tour of *The Rake's Progress* under the baton of Barbara Hannigan.