



Joel Williams

Described by Opera Magazine as a singer “with flair, his tenor simultaneously caressing and resilient”, Joel Williams is a graduate of King’s College Cambridge, and the Royal College of Music International Opera Studio, where he was the Kiri te Kanawa Scholar.

Joel is a former member of the Centre de Perfeccionament Palau de les Arts in Valencia and the Studio of Bayerische Staatsoper Munich. Last season he returned to Bayerische Staatsoper to reprise the roles of Scaramuccio in *Ariadne auf Naxos* and Nencio in Marie-Eve Signeyrole’s production of *L’infedelta delusa*, as well as appear as Vitellozzo in *Lucrezia Borgia* and Rooster in *Cunning Little Vixen*. He also returned to Valencia to give role debuts as Arnalta/Nutrice in Ted Huffman’s acclaimed production of Monteverdi’s *L’incoronazione di Poppea*, sang Hirt/Seemann in Wagner’s *Tristan und Isolde* at the Grand Théâtre du Luxembourg and made his house debut as Zotico at Opernhaus Zürich in a new production of Cavalli’s *Eliogabalo* by Calixto Bieto.

In 2023-24 Joel will return to Valencia for his role debut as Chapalitsky in Richard Jones’ new production of Tchaikovsky’s *Pique Dame* and he will reprise the role of Scaramuccio in guest performances in Hong Kong with Bayerische Staatsoper. At Opera Toulon Joel will appear as Arnalta/Nutrice and he will make his debut at Festival d’Aix-en-Provence as Eurimaco in Monteverdi’s *Il ritorno d’Ulisse in patria* at the end of the

season.

Other roles he performed at Bayerische Staatsoper and Valencia include Gaston and Victorin in *Die Tote Stadt*, Basilio/*Le nozze di Figaro*, Bardolfo/*Falstaff*, Beppo/*Pagliacci*, Le Mari/*Les mamelles de Tirésias*, Hirte and Stimme eines jungen Seemanns in *Tristan und Isolde*, Gernando in Manuel Garcia's *L'isola Disabitata*, Parpignol/*La Bohème*, 4.Knappe/*Parsifal*, Don Luigino/*Il Viaggio a Reims* and Narr in a new production of *Wozzeck*. Joel also recently appeared as Delfa in Alessandro Melani's opera *L'empio punito* at Innsbrucker Festwochen für Alte Musik.

He has worked with conductors like James Gaffigan, Vladimir Jurowski, Leonardo García Alarcón, Daniele Rustioni, Christopher Moulds, Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla, Antonino Fogliani, Lothar Koenigs, Ulf Schirmer and Mikko Franck and stage directors such as Robert Carsen, Simon Stone, Barrie Kosky, Christof Loy, Pierre Audi and Andreas Kriegenburg.

Joel made his operatic debuts as a boy treble at the Royal Opera House, English National Opera and Glyndebourne and performed in oratorio with Paul McCreesh and toured with the Monteverdi Choir and Sir John Eliot Gardiner.

In concert, he has collaborated with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the Hermann-Levi-Akademie of the Bayerisches Staatsorchester and Vladimir Jurowski, the Verbier Festival Orchestra and Valery Gergiev, the Choir of King's College Cambridge and Stephen Cleobury, the Noord Nederlands Orkest, EuropaMusicale Festival Strings, Cambridge University Musical Society and Richard Farnes and Merton College Choir.

As a Pembroke Lieder Scholar with Joseph Middleton, he has also appeared as recitalist at the Oxford Lieder Festival, Leeds Lieder, the Barber Institute at Birmingham University, the Leeds University International Concert Series, the Victoria Rooms in Bristol and at Wigmore Hall, broadcasted live on BBC Radio 3.

During his studies he performed *Le Ruisseau/Les Fêtes D'Hébé* at Opéra de Bastille in Paris, Don Ottavio/*Don Giovanni* at Opera Holland Park, Lysander/*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Count Belfiore/*La Finta Giardiniera*, the title role in Offenbach's *Robinson Crusoe*, Mayor/*Albert Herring*, Hexe/*Hänsel und Gretel*, Dr Blind/*Die Fledermaus*, all as part of the Royal College of Music International Opera Studio.

Joel is a Britten-Pears Young Artist, a Young Artist at Opera Holland Park and an Alvarez Young Artist at Garsington Opera. He is the recipient of the Somerset Song Prize and second prize in the Maureen Lehane Vocal Awards.

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