



Simon Bailey Bassbaritone

Simon Bailey was born in Lincoln and read music at Clare College, Cambridge, and at the Royal Northern College of Music with Neil Howlett. Simon subsequently studied at the La Scala Academy, Milan, where he was the winner of the *Concorso Internazionale dell'Accademia del Teatro alla Scala* competition, the *Concorso Vocale Internazionale di Musica Sacra* competition and was a semi-finalist in the *Placido Domingo Operalia* competition of 2003. He has appeared in masterclasses with Leyla Gencer, Luigi Alva, Sir John Tomlinson, Bonaldo Giaiotti, Shirley Verrett, Luciana Serra and Leo Nucci, and in August 2002 he joined the ensemble of Opera Frankfurt as a company principal.

Simon's exceptional vocal range has enabled him to perform a rich variety of roles across the bass and baritone repertoire, including Figaro *Le Nozze di Figaro* (La Scala, Rouen and Limoges), Schaunard *La Bohème* (La Scala) and Mustafa *L'italiana in Algeri* (Accademia Rossiniana, Pesaro). Having created the role of Viceprocuratore in Corgi's *Tat'jana* at La Scala, he was also heard there as Alessio *La Sonnambula*, Barone di Kelbar *Un Giorno di Regno* during the Verdi centenary, 5th Jew *Salome* and Nikitič *Boris Godunov* under the direction of Valery Gergiev. He subsequently sang the title role in Handel's *Hercules* at the Athens Festival, to critical and public acclaim, which was later repeated in Reims cathedral and the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. Simon was then invited by Luigi Alva to Lima, Peru, to debut Enrico *Lucia di Lammermoor*.

Further guest engagements have included Méphistophélès *Damnation de Faust* for Staatstheater Stuttgart. Achilla, *Giulio Cesare* (Opéra de Lille), Zuniga *Carmen* (Glyndebourne Festival), Procolo *Le Convenienze ed Inconvenienze teatrali* (La Scala, Milan), Truffaldino *Ariadne auf Naxos* (Theater an der Wien), the world première of Michael Levinas' *La Métamorphose* (Opéra de Lille) and Brander/Méphistophélès *Damnation de Faust* (De Vlaamse Opera, Antwerp). Recent concert engagements include Mussorgsky *Songs & Dances of Death* with Nagoya Philharmonic in Japan (Martyn Brabbins), Verdi *Requiem* in Dublin, *La Fille du Régiment*, David *L'Amico Fritz* at the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall, Moscow, and Vairochana in the UK (semi-staged) premiere of Jonathan Harvey's *Wagner Dream* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra at the Barbican.

As a company principal at Oper Frankfurt, Simon has appeared as Papageno *Die Zauberflöte*, Nick Shadow *The Rake's Progress*, Dulcamara *L'elisir d'amore*, Alidoro/Don Magnifico *Cenerentola*, Don Alfonso *Così fan Tutte*, Don Basilio *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, Cherea *Caligula*, Lord Sidney *Il Viaggio a Reims*, Angelotti *Tosca*, Lescaut *Manon*, Claudio *Agrippina*, Klingsor *Parsifal*, Animal Tamer/Acrobat *Lulu*, Shaklivity *Khovanshchina*, Gonzalo *The Tempest*, Mr Redburn *Billy Budd*,

Paolo **Simon Boccanegra**, Méphistophélès **La Damnation de Faust**, Ferryman **Curlew River**, Skuratov **The Tsar's Bride**, Oreste **Elektra**, Bischof Ercole **Palestrina**, Arcas **Medée** and the title role **Don Giovanni**.

Simon's interests also lie in recital and oratorio work, where appearances include Berlioz's **L'enfance du Christ** in King's College Chapel, Cambridge, Haydn's **Creation** in Lima Cathedral, **Missa Solemnis** for Tampere Philharmonic, Mozart's **Requiem** in Bordeaux and Manchester, **St Matthew Passion** (Frankfurt, Karlsruhe and Trier) and **Messiah** at the Royal Albert Hall and in Oslo. During the 2013 Wagner year, Simon sang Gurnemanz **Parsifal** in concert in Wiesbaden and Bad Homburg. Simon has also appeared in recital at the Teatro Britanico, Lima, and also several times in recital at La Scala. His discography includes Mozart's **Requiem**, Mandarin **Turandot** for Chandos Opera in English, Doge in Rossini's **Bianca e Falliero** for Opera Rara, and Stainer's **Crucifixion** for Naxos. He also appears as a soloist on the recital recordings for Opera Rara and Chandos.

Recent engagements include the Four Villains **Les Contes d'Hoffmann** for Theater Basel, Handel **Saul** at the Kölner Philharmonie and Klingsor **Parsifal**, Gelone in Cesti's **L'Oronthea**, Don Magnifico **Cenerentola**, 2nd Tempter/Knight in Pizzetti's **Assassinio nella Cattedrale** and Leporello **Don Giovanni** for Oper Frankfurt. Simon made his Covent Garden debut as Leporello **Don Giovanni** in summer 2015. Engagements in 2015/2016 include Leporello at the Gstaad Menuhin Festival with La Scintilla Oper Zürich (Heras-Casado), a return to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as Scirocco **L'Étoile** and his return to Stuttgart as Kaspar **Der Freischütz**. Subsequent engagements include Nikanor/Satan in David's **Herculanum** for Wexford Festival Opera, Jochanaan **Salome** for Staatstheater Stuttgart and Leporello for Oper Frankfurt.

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