

# Elgan Llŷr Thomas

Tenor



**“With a voice that's exquisitely modulated and flexible in creating character, this young tenor confirmed his status as one of the most exciting British male talents to have emerged in recent years.”**

Opera

Welsh tenor Elgan Llyr Thomas is a current English National Opera Harewood Artist. He made his debut with ENO in 2018 as the Prologue/Peter Quint *The Turn of the Screw* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre). Engagements in the 2019-20 season include his role debut as Nanki-Poo *The Mikado* (ENO).

Engagements in the 2018-19 season included Almaviva *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (Opéra national de Bordeaux); Dr Richardson in the European premiere of Missy Mazzoli's *Breaking the Waves* (Scottish Opera); Johnny Inkslinger *Paul Bunyan* (ENO at Wilton's Music Hall); Normanno *Lucia di Lammermoor* (ENO) and Tom Rakewell *The Rake's Progress* (Equilibrium Young Artists at the Ojai Festival in California and Aldeburgh Festival).

Recent engagements include role debuts as Ernesto *Don Pasquale* (Mananan International Festival of Music and the Arts, Isle of Man) and Tom Rakewell *The Rake's Progress* (Equilibrium Young Artists at the Klarafestival, Brussels, cond. Barbara Hannigan); Almaviva *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (Théâtre des Champs-Élysées and Mananan International Festival); Brighella *Ariadne auf Naxos* (Scottish Opera and Opera Holland Park); Spoletta *Tosca* (Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod with the Orchestra of WNO, Sir Bryn Terfel and Kristine Opolais); Lindoro *L'italiana in Algeri* (Mananan International Festival); Fenton *Falstaff* (Cambridge Philharmonic Society) and covers of Lensky *Eugene Onegin*, Binet *Vert-Vert* and Selimo *Maometto Secondo* (all for Garsington Opera).

Equally in demand on the concert platform, his recent engagements include Orbin in Elgar's *Caractacus* (Opera North Orchestra, cond. Martyn

Brabbins); Jenkins's *The Armed Man, Mass for Peace* (Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, cond. Sir Karl Jenkins); Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* (Dartington International Summer Festival, cond. Paul McCreech); a concert with Sir Bryn Terfel at Bangor University and a Gala concert with the Xi'an Symphony Orchestra in China.

Thomas studied at the Royal Northern College of Music and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Roles whilst studying include Florindo *Le donne curiose* and Male Chorus *The Rape of Lucretia* (both for GSMD); title role *Albert Herring* and Lampwick *The Adventures of Pinocchio* (both for RNCM) and Johnny Inkslinger in Welsh National Youth Opera's Britten Centenary production of *Paul Bunyan*. He is a former Scottish Opera Emerging Artist and has sung Nemorino *L'elisir d'amore* and Titorelli/Flogger/Berthold *The Trial* for the company.

He is the winner of numerous awards, including the 2015 Stuart Burrows International Voice Award; the 2015 Kerry-Keane Prize and Audience Prize at the Les Azuriales Opera Young Artists Programme and has had considerable success at the National Eisteddfod of Wales. He is also a recipient of a 2017/18 Opera Awards Foundation Bursary and is one of the first recipients of a Study Award from the Bryn Terfel Foundation.

His discography includes Orbin in Elgar's *Caractacus* for Hyperion (Opera North Orchestra, cond. Martyn Brabbins), an album of Welsh Songs called *Llwybrau'n Cân* and songs by Gareth Glyn on *Caneuon Gareth Glyn* (both for SAIN).

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