

Jack Furness

Stage Director



“Shadwell Opera’s performance of *Albert Herring*, fresh, touching and assured, proved to anyone who may doubt it that opera in the UK has a bright future”

Fiona Maddocks, Observer

Herald Angel Award winner Jack Furness studied music at Cambridge University, where he received a double first-class honours degree. Whilst at Cambridge, Furness founded the ambitious and innovative Shadwell Opera, of which he is Artistic Director.

With Shadwell Opera, Furness has directed *Albert Herring* at Opera Holland Park; *Die Zauberflöte*, which won an RBS Herald Angel Award at the 2009 Edinburgh Fringe Festival; *Speech Acts* – a double-bill of George Benjamin’s *Into the Little Hill* and Stravinsky’s *The Soldier’s Tale* – at the Courtyard Theatre; *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*; Jonathan Dove’s *Siren Song*; *Così fan tutte*; *In the Penal Colony* at the Arts Theatre, Leicester Square; and *Song* – a double bill of Mahler’s *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* and Peter Maxwell Davies’ *Eight Songs for a Mad King* at Bart’s Pathology Museum.

Engagements in the 2018-19 season include reviving David McVicar’s production of *Carmen* for Dallas Opera and a new production of *Così fan tutte* at the Teatru Manoel in Malta.

Highlights of the 2017-18 season included *Don Giovanni* at the Teatru Manoel, Malta; *Iolanta* for Scottish Opera; *Written on Skin* with the Melos Sinfonia and Scottish Opera’s *Opera Highlights* tour.

Other recent directing credits include *Le nozze di Figaro* at the Teatru Manoel, Malta; *Down in the Valley* and *Der Jasager* (both by Kurt Weill) for Opera North Youth Company and Scottish Opera Connect

Company at the Aberdeen International Youth Theatre Festival; a double bill of Schoenberg’s *Erwartung* and Mark Anthony Turnage’s *Twice through the Heart* for Shadwell Opera at the Hackney Showroom; *Amadis de Gaule* for University College Opera; Humperdinck’s *Hansel and Gretel* at the Wexford Festival; *Eugene Onegin* for Ryedale Festival Opera; *Falstaff* for Opera Integra; *I Found My Horn* for the Marlowe Society; and two short opera films for Shadwell Opera that were broadcast on Channel 4 last year and watched by over 400,000 people nationwide. More recently, he has directed a promotional film for Blackheath Community Halls Opera. In the 2015-16 season, Furness took up the post of Emerging Artist Director for Scottish Opera.

Furness has assisted directors such as Sir David McVicar and Yoshi Oida at companies including the Glyndebourne Festival, Royal Opera House, English National Opera, Opera North and Scottish Opera. He has recently assisted on Laurent Pelly’s production of *L’elisir d’amore*, Andrei Serban’s production of *Turandot* and a new production of *Der Rosenkavalier* by Robert Carsen, all at the Royal Opera House.

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info@rayfieldallied.com