

# Sam Furness

Tenor



**“Furness, however, is terrific in the immensely difficult title role. Gauchely attractive, he charts Hoffmann’s descent from naive idealism to self-destructive despair with compelling veracity, and sings it all with great ease and impeccable style... it’s Furness’s night.”**

*Guardian*

Described as having “all the makings of a star” in the *Guardian* and hailed as “a lyric tenor clearly going places” in *Opera* magazine, tenor Sam Furness has sung major roles for Scottish Opera, Garsington Opera and the Teatro Real, Madrid, always earning praise for his compelling acting and innate musicality.

Highlights of the 2018-19 season include his house debuts at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden (Novice *Billy Budd* and Simpleton *Boris Godunov*) and Theater an der Wien (Rodolphe *Guillaume Tell*). He also returns to Vlaanderen Opera (Vitek *The Makropulos Case* and Der Cavalier *Cardillac*).

Highlights of the the 2017-18 season included his role debuts as Don José *Carmen* (Jyväskylä Opera) and Flamand *Capriccio* (Garsington Opera); a return to the Teatro Real, Madrid (The Spirit of the Masque *Gloriana*) and the role of Gaspar in Garsington Opera’s new commission *The Skating Rink*.

Furness has received great acclaim for his performances of Britten, including the Novice *Billy Budd* (Teatro Real, Madrid and Teatro Municipal, Santiago); title role *Albert Herring* (Opera di Firenze, Opera Holland Park and in a new production at the Théâtre du Capitôle Toulouse) and Quint and the Prologue *The Turn of the Screw* (Northern Ireland Opera). He also excels in the music of Janacek and has sung *Števa Jenůfa* (Scottish Opera) and *The Diary of One Who Vanished* (Shadwell Opera, directed by his brother Jack).

Other roles include Lensky *Eugene Onegin* (Royal Academy Opera and at the Rydale Festival directed by his brother Jack); Tamino *Die Zauberflöte* (Turku Music Festival); title role *Les contes d’Hoffmann* (English Touring

Opera); Baron Lummer *Intermezzo* (Garsington Opera); Jaquino *Fidelio* (Garsington Opera and Philharmonie de Paris) and Jack *Silver Birch* (in the world premiere at Garsington Opera).

Oratorio and concert repertoire includes Mozart Requiem, Bach *St Matthew Passion* and *St John Passion*, Mendelssohn *Elijah*, Handel *Messiah* and *Samson*, Britten *St Nicholas* and *Les Illuminations*, Verdi Requiem and Dyson *Canterbury Pilgrims*.

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