

William Towers

Counter-tenor



“ In the title role, the counter-tenor William Towers sang superbly, with power, dramatic confidence, ardour and sensitivity”

Stephen Pettitt, Opera Magazine


William Towers read English at Cambridge University and was a postgraduate scholar at the Royal Academy of Music. He appeared extensively as a soloist in Sir John Eliot Gardiner's Bach Cantata Pilgrimage and his performances in the complete Bach series have been issued on CD.

His opera engagements have included **Medoro** (Handel *Orlando*) and **Farnace** (Mozart *Mitridate Re di Ponto*) for the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, **Oberon** (Britten *A Midsummer Night's Dream*) for Teatro La Fenice Venice, Teatro Petruzzelli Bari, Teatro Municipale Valli Reggione Emilia, Staatsoper Hanover, for the Royal Opera at the Linbury, and for the Aldeburgh Festival, **Apollo** (Britten *Death in Venice*) for La Monnaie Brussels, Luxembourg Opera, Canadian Opera Company, Prague State Opera, Aldeburgh Festival, Oper Frankfurt and the Bregenz Festival, **Ottone** (Monteverdi *L'incoronazione di Poppea*) for the Teatro Real Madrid and Frankfurt, **Orlando** (Handel *Orlando*) at the Goettingen Festival, at the Drottningholm Theatre and with the Philharmonia Baroque in San Francisco, **Giunio** (Porpora *L'Agrippina*) for the Barber Institute, **Poro** (Handel *Poro*) at the Goettingen Festival, **Giulio Cesare** (Handel *Giulio Cesare*) for Gothenburg Opera, **Unulfo** (Handel *Rodelinda*) for the Bolshoi Moscow, **Ottone** (Handel *Agrippina*), **Ruggiero** (Vivaldi *Orlando Furioso*) and **Egeo** (Handel *Teseo*) for Frankfurt, **Ottone** (Handel *Ottone*) and **Ozia** (*La Giuditta*) at the Casa da Musica Porto, **Orfeo** (Gluck *Orfeo*) in Monte-Carlo, **Cristiano Mago** (Handel *Rinaldo*) for Glyndebourne Festival Opera, **Lotario** (Handel *Lotario*) for the London Handel Festival and **Eustazio** (Handel *Rinaldo*) for Grange Park Opera.

Equally at home in contemporary work William's roles include **5th Innocent** in Harrison Birtwistle's *Minotaur* for the Royal Opera Covent Garden, John Adams's *The Gospel According to the Other Mary* for Theater Bonn, **The Guest** in the UK premiere of Salvatore Sciarrino's *Luci mie traditrici*, **Bishop Baldwyn** in Birtwistle's *Gawain*, **Der Leiermann** in Benedict Mason's *Playing*

Away, **Lance** in the world premiere of Paul Frehner's *Sirius on Earth* and **Little James** in Birtwistle's *The Last Supper*.

His oratorio and recital schedule has featured appearances in many major venues and festivals in the UK and abroad, including the Wigmore Hall, Symphony Hall Birmingham, Barbican Hall, Royal Albert Hall, the Grosses Festspielhaus Salzburg, Konzerthaus Vienna, National Auditorium Madrid, Three Choirs Festival, Ravenna Festival, Flanders Early Music Festival, the Festival de Musique Ancienne de Lyon and La Chaise Dieu. Recent concert performances include Handel's *Solomon* in Estonia and Latvia, Handel's *Belshazzar* with Nicholas McGegan in San Francisco, Handel's *Messiah* in Dresden with the MDR and with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and Laurence Cummings, Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* with the Royal Northern Sinfonia and Lars Vogt, Bach's *St John Passion* with the BBCNOW and John Butt, and the premiere of Harrison Birtwistle's *Angel Fighter* in the Leipzig Bach Festival.

Recent and forthcoming highlights include *Death in Venice* for Staatstheater Stuttgart, the title role in *Radamisto* for English Touring Opera, Bach's *Mass in B minor* with Jonathan Cohen, the Britten Canticles at Fundación Juan March, Madrid with Roger Vignoles, and Bach's *Easter Oratorio* with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales. 

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