

Matthew Brook

Bass – Baritone



“Matthew Brook, who turns everything he sings to gold.”
The Observer

Matthew Brook is known for his honest and open portrayal of characters whether on the opera or concert stage. He leapt to fame with his 2007 Gramophone Award-winning recording of Handel's *Messiah* with the Dunedin Consort, followed by equally critically acclaimed recordings of *Acis and Galatea* and *St Matthew Passion*. He has appeared as a soloist throughout Europe, Australia, North and South America and the Far East, and has worked with many of the world's leading conductors. He has developed a world-wide reputation for his interpretation of the music of J.S. Bach and George Frederic Handel but his musical tastes stretch far beyond this, often performing new commissions.

Other concert repertoire he performs regularly include pieces such as Beethoven *Ninth Symphony* and *Missa Solemnis*, Berlioz *L'Enfance du Christ*, Brahms' *Requiem*, Elgar *Dream of Gerontius*, Haydn *Die Schöpfung* and *Die Jahreszeiten*, Mendelssohn *Elijah*, Tippett *A Child of Our Time* and Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast*.

Matthew has enjoyed long collaborations with conductors including Sir Andrew Davis, Harry Bicket, Bernhard Labadie, Christophe Rousset, John Nelson, Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Philippe Herreweghe, John Butt, Harry Christophers, Paul McCreesh and the late Sir Charles Mackerras, Sir Roger Norrington and Richard Hickox. He has also collaborated with Richard Tognetti, Sir Mark Elder, Emmanuelle Haïm, Laurence Equilbey, Maxim Emelyanov, Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla and Christian Curnyn.

In 2023 Matthew made his Opéra national de Paris debut performing the role of **Il Re di Scozia** in a new Robert Carsen production of *Ariodante* under Harry Bicket. He has performed roles at Staatstheater Stuttgart, Opera Comique, Göttingen International Handel Festival, The Grand Théâtre de Luxembourg and at the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino. Some of Matthew's roles have included **Polyphemus** *Acis and Galatea*, **Aeneas** *Dido and Aeneas*, **Papageno** *Die Zauberflöte*, **Figaro** *Le nozze di Figaro*, **Leporello** *Don Giovanni*, **Kouno** *Der Freischütz*, **Garibaldo** *Rodelinda*, **Ned Keene** *Peter Grimes*, **Vicar Albert Herring**, **Noye Noye's Fludde**, **John Bunyan** and **Lord Hategood** in Vaughan Williams's *The Pilgrim's Progress*, **Melchior** in Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, **Jupiter** in Rameau's *Castor et Pollux*, **Starek** and **Mayor Jenufa**, **Antenor** and **Calkas** in Walton's *Troilus and Cressida*, **Zuniga** *Carmen*, **Argenio** *Imeneo*, **Claudio Agrippina**

and **Seneca** in *L'incoronazione di Poppea*. He assumed the roles of **Don Alfonso** and **Bartolo** under Sir John Elliott Gardiner as part of a big European tour including at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Salle Pleyel, Paris, Teatro Real, Madrid and Giuseppe Verdi Opera House, Pisa.

Matthew has an extensive discography resulting in many nominations and awards including several Gramophone awards for the music of Handel and Bach and a Grammy nomination for the Mozart *Requiem*. His recent recording *Bach: Ich habe genug* with the Dunedin Consort for the Linn label won the choral award in the 2022 BBC Music Magazine Awards. Some other recording highlights include, Handel's *Ariodante* with Joyce DiDonato and Il Complesso Barocco for the Erato label under Alan Curtis, *Idomeneo* with the late Sir Charles Mackerras for EMI, and **Counsel Trial By Jury** and **Friar Tuck** in Sullivan's *Ivanhoe* with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales for Chandos records. He is also soloist for a BBC television recording of Berlioz's *L'Enfance du Christ* under the late Richard Hickox.

Future releases will include a new recording of Handel's *Messiah* with John Nelson, the English Concert and Choir and a recording of *Purcell's Dido and Aeneas* with David Bates and La Nuova Musica.

Recent highlights include the role of **Aeneas** in the world premiere of Errollyn Wallen's *Dido's Ghost* co-commissioned by the Dunedin Consort with the Barbican Centre, Edinburgh International Festival, Buxton International Festival and Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra & Chorale, a return to the Edinburgh International Festival for a special performance of Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* with Maxim Emelyanov and the SCO, and Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* with the Royal Philharmonic under Vasily Petrenko.

This season, Matthew makes his debut with Opera North in David Pountney's "Masque of Might", music by Purcell, conducted by Harry Bicket, returns to Grange Park Opera, and gives performances with the Czech Philharmonic, Rotterdam Philharmonic, Philharmonia Baroque, Handel and Haydn Society Boston and closer to home with the Academy of Ancient Music, English Concert, Dunedin Consort, The Hallé and Royal Northern Sinfonia to name a few.

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info@rayfieldallied.com

Rayfield Allied
9-12 The Stableyard
Broomgrove Road
London, SW9 9TL, UK
www.rayfieldallied.com
E-mail info@rayfieldallied.com
Telephone +44 (0) 20 3176 5500
Facsimile +44 (0) 700 602 4143

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