

# Matthew Hargreaves

## Bass Baritone



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Matthew Hargreaves was born in London and began singing as a chorister at Westminster Abbey. He went on to study at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama with Rudolph Piernay, where he won several prizes including an award from the Wolfson Foundation. He was a finalist in the 1996 International Coloratura Singing Competition in Luxembourg, and was the winner of the Decca Prize in the 1997 Kathleen Ferrier Award Competition.

Most recent and future engagements include *Inspector A Dog's Heart* (La Scala, Milan), *Kommissar Der Rosenkavalier* (WNO), *Leporello Don Giovanni* and *Death Swanhunter* (Opera North), *Angelotti Tosca* and *Baron Douphol La Traviata* (ENO), *Citizen of Vienna Amadeus* (The National Theatre), *Baron Douphol* (West Green House), *Gremin Eugene Onegin* and *Pistol Falstaff* (Cambridge Philharmonic Society), *Eisenring Biedermann and the Arsonists* (Independent Opera), *Stagehand The Makropulos Case* (Edinburgh Festival and ON), *Osmin Die Entfuhrung Frosch Die Fledermaus*, *Alidoro La Cenerentola*, *Villains Les Contes d'Hoffmann Kommissar Der Rosenkavalier*, *Alfonso Così fan Tutte*, *Notary Don Pasquale* and *Commendatore Don Giovanni* (Diva Opera), *Nardo La Finta Giardiniera* (Buxton Festival), *Montano/Herald Otello* (BBC Philharmonic) and *Ceprano Rigoletto* (LSO), both under Nosedà. Recent concerts include *Rossini's Petite Messe Solonelle* (BBC Singers), *Trial by Jury* (CBSO), *Christus St John Passion* (Norway's Kristiansund Symfoni Orkester and Manchester Camerata), *Christus St Matthew Passion* (BBC Philharmonic), *Winterreise* (Oxford Lieder Festival), *Gounod's Mass to St Cecilia* and *Fauré's Requiem* (Gravesham Choral Society), *Dream of Gerontius* (East Sussex Bach Choir) and *Savitri* (Choros Chamber Choir).

Operatic engagements in the UK include *Don Giovanni*, *Escamillo Carmen*, *Schaunard La bohème*, *The Speaker The Magic Flute*, *Masetto Don Giovanni*, *Ping Turandot* and *Sourin The Queen of Spades* (Welsh National Opera), *Figaro Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Leporello*, *Count Tomsky The Queen of Spades*, *Zurga The Pearl Fishers* and *Basilio Il Barbiere di Siviglia* (Opera Holland Park), *Narumov The Queen of Spades* and *Voice of Neptune Idomeneo* (Grange Park Opera), *Leporello*, *Figaro* and *Calchas La Belle Helene* (Diva Opera), *Sciarrone Tosca* (Royal Opera House), *Angelotti* and *Escamillo* (Royal Albert Hall), *Dandini La Cenerentola* (ETO) and *Figaro* with Savoy Opera.

Further afield, appearances include *The Gallworm The Cricket Recovers* by Richard Ayres in Bregenz,

Junius *The Rape of Lucretia* for the Teatro Comunale di Firenze; Abbot *Curlew River* for Opera de Rouen; English Clerk *Death in Venice* and Traveller *Curlew River* for VARA in concert performance at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Alidoro *La Cenerentola* for Opera Theatre Company, Polyphemus *Acis and Galatea* and Leporello for Opera Atelier in Toronto, conducted by Marc Minkowski, and the title role *Don Giovanni* with Opera Atelier on tour to Japan.

Matthew has an extensive concert and oratorio repertoire and has worked with all the major British orchestras. He has performed Handel's *Sing unto God* with The Academy of Ancient Music conducted by Christopher Hogwood at the BBC Proms, *Messiah* with the Hallé Orchestra, Faure *Requiem* at the Welsh Proms, Vaughan Williams *Five Mystical Songs* with Ulster Orchestra and *Pulcinella* with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under Leonard Slatkin. He has also sung *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* by Händel with Netherlands Radio Chamber Philharmonic & Choir, Bach's *St John Passion* with Music of the Baroque conducted by Nicholas Kraemer in Chicago and Handel's *Messiah* with Göteborgs Symfoniker, the Detroit Symphony and on tour across Europe with Trevor Pinnock and The English Concert.

Recordings include *Bosun* in concert performances of *Billy Budd* conducted by Kent Nagano with the Hallé Orchestra, recorded for Erato Disques, the Abbot *Curlew River* for Koch International, *Rambaldo Maria di Rudenz* and *Ali Zoraida di Granata* for Opera Rara, Wagner *Faust* for Chandos Records and the music for an audio play of *The Phantom of the Opera* broadcast on BBC7 and available on CD.