

The Wessex Award Celebration Recital

10th May 2015

The Wessex Award, instituted in 1997, provides a bursary for a deserving young singer from the Glyndebourne Chorus, and is funded by events organized by the Wessex Glyndebourne Association. This evening's recital features the 2014 winner, Padraic Rowan, accompanied by Matthew Fletcher.

Performers' Biographies

Padraic Rowan

Twenty-five year old Padraic Rowan graduated from the Royal Irish Academy of Music in 2013 with a Masters in Music Performance, having previously studied International Relations at Dublin City University. He currently studies with Robert Dean.

A Jerwood Young Artist at the 2014 Glyndebourne Festival, recent awards include the 2014 Wessex Glyndebourne Award, the Dramatic Cup and Tony Quigley Award at Ireland's Feis Ceoil, and the 2013 Irené Sandford Award for Singers at the RIAM. In 2013, Padraic reached the semi-finals of the Veronica Dunne International Singing Competition. He is a 2012 alumnus of the Opera Theatre Company Young Associate Artists' Programme.

Recent engagements include Bass soloist (arias)/St. Matthew Passion (RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra); First Soldier/*Salome* (NI Opera); Dottore Grenvil (cover)/*La traviata* (Glyndebourne Touring Opera); L'Autre Officier/*Thérèse* and The Regent/*The Sleeping Queen* (Wexford Festival Opera); Sailor/*Billy Budd* (Glyndebourne Festival Opera and Brooklyn Academy of Music); Mr. Gedge/*Albert Herring*, Somnus/*Semele* (RIAM); and Pastore/*Orfeo* (Opera Theatre Company). His concert work includes The Creation (Haydn) and the Requiems of Mozart, Fauré and Duruflé. He has also participated in a number of Masterclasses, most notably with Sir Thomas Allen.

Upcoming engagements include the Handel Residency at the Académie du Festival d'Aix-en-Provence in France, competing in the final rounds of the 34th International Hans Gabor Belvedere Singing Competition in Amsterdam, and Lesbo/*Agrippina* (Irish Youth Opera).

Matthew Fletcher

Award winning pianist Matthew Fletcher is increasingly in demand as a recitalist, particularly of song repertoire. His performances have taken him all over the UK and Europe and he has performed at venues such as Wigmore Hall, Kings Place, the Purcell Room, St John's Smith Square, the Elgar Room (Royal Albert Hall), the Sage Gateshead, and the Linbury Studio (ROH). He has appeared at the Oxford Lieder Festival, Winchester Festival and the Norfolk and Norwich Festival, and is director of music at Rosslyn Hill Unitarian Chapel, Hampstead.

Matthew also works as a répétiteur and coach. He has been a member of the music staff at Glyndebourne since 2012, most recently working on Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier*, Mozart's *La Finta Giardiniera* and Verdi's *La Traviata*. He has worked for Raymond Gubbay Productions (Bizet's *Carmen*) and is a founder member of Shadwell Opera, for whom he recently conducted Philip Glass' *In the Penal Colony*. Matthew has worked as a vocal coach at the Royal Academy of Music, and has recently given a seminar on song accompaniment at the University of Cambridge.

Matthew studied at the Royal Academy of Music with Michael Dussek and Pascal Nemirovsky, where he subsequently held the Hodgson Fellowship. He has won numerous awards for piano accompaniment, and also holds a double 1st class degree in music from Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, where he was organ scholar. Matthew is very grateful for the support he has received for his studies. He has received a number of scholarships and awards, and is a Britten-Pears Young Artist and a Samling Artist.

This evening's programme

Handel	Sorge infausta (Orlando)
Mozart	Non più andrai (Le Nozze di Figaro)
Schubert	Der Lindenbaum
Schumann	Die Beiden Grenadiere
John Ireland	Sea Fever
Stephen Kohn	Ten Thousand Miles Away
Lambert	She is far from the land
Mahler	Lob des hohen Verstands
Schubert	Der Musensohn
Peter Warlock	Captain Stratton's Fancy
- Interval -	
Gerald Finzi	Let Us Garlands Bring
	i. Come away death
	ii. Who is Sylvia?
	iii. Fear no more the heat o' the sun
	iv. O mistress mine
	v. It was a lover and his lass