

Ed Ballard | Baritone

Born in London, Ed read History at Cambridge University before training at the Royal Academy of Music and with Royal Academy Opera. Winner of the Marjorie Thomas Art Song Prize and the Elena Gerhardt Lieder Prize, he was a Maidment Scholar, a Sybil Tutton Award holder and an International Opera Awards Foundation bursary recipient. Ed made his professional stage debut creating the title role in the world premiere of Luke Styles *Macbeth* for the Jerwood Young Artist Scheme at Glyndebourne Festival Opera, with performances at Glyndebourne and the Linbury Studio, Royal Opera House. He has since appeared in the title role in the baritone version of *Werther*, Ernest Shackleton in Russell Hepplewhite's *Shackleton's Cat* and Marco in *Gianni Schicchi* for English Touring Opera, Pandolfe in *Cendrillon* for Theater Freiburg and cover Nick Shadow in *The Rake's Progress* for Festival d'Aix-en-Provence. His other roles include Tarquinius in *The Rape of Lucretia* (Royal Academy Opera), Truffaldino in Jonathan Dove's *The Little Green Swallow* and cover Chao Lin in Judith Weir's *A Night at the Chinese Opera* (British Youth Opera), Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Edinburgh Fringe), Marcello in *La Boheme* (Vivo d'Arte) and Aeneas in *Dido and Aeneas* (Dartington). As Britten-Pears Young artist and recent finalist in the London Handel Singing Competition, he is equally at home on the concert platform, and his many concert appearances include performances at the Royal Albert Hall, King's Place, St John's Smith Square, King's College Chapel amongst others.