

PRESS RELEASE
4 May 2017



British bass Brindley Sherratt to sing the role of the Baron in *Der Rosenkavalier* for the first time

Season highlights include:

- Brindley Sherratt performs the role of Baron Ochs in Welsh National Opera's new production of *Der Rosenkavalier*
- Sherratt returns to The Royal Opera to sing Timur in Andrei Serban's revival of *Turandot*
- English National Opera's new production of *Aida* features Sherratt as Ramfis
- At Glyndebourne Festival 2018 Sherratt performs the Baron in *Der Rosenkavalier* and Arkel in a new production of *Pelléas et Mélisande*
- Concerts at the BBC Proms, Aldeburgh Festival, Edinburgh International Festival in 2017

Brindley Sherratt, one of the UK's leading international bass singers, makes his debut in the pinnacle role of Baron Ochs of Lerchenau in a new production of *Der Rosenkavalier* for Welsh National Opera in June and July 2017. Other forthcoming highlights include roles for The Royal Opera, English National Opera, Glyndebourne Festival 2018, and concerts at the 2017 BBC Proms, Aldeburgh Festival and Edinburgh International Festival.

Der Rosenkavalier at Welsh National Opera and Glyndebourne Festival

Brindley Sherratt achieves a career landmark in 2017 when he debuts in the role of the Baron Ochs of Lerchenau in **Welsh National Opera's** new production of Richard Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier*. The Baron is acknowledged to be a pinnacle role for a bass, and this career highlight marks Sherratt's return to the WNO, having previously sung the role of Pogner in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* in Cardiff and at the BBC Proms in 2010. This new production, directed by Olivia Fuchs, and also starring **Rebecca Evans** as The Marschallin, opens at the Wales Millennium Centre on **4 June 2017** and runs until the 17 June 2017. It will then transfer to the Birmingham Hippodrome for a performance on **1 July 2017**. Brindley Sherratt comments on performing the Baron for the first time:

Brindley Sherratt comments:

"I'm ridiculously excited (and a little daunted) to be singing my first Baron Ochs with WNO. I began my career with this great company and it will be great to be back."

Sherratt will reprise the role of the Baron in **Glyndebourne's** revival of Richard Jones's 2014 production of *Der Rosenkavalier*, which runs from **20 May – 26 June 2018**. Also at **Glyndebourne Festival 2018**, he will sing the role of Arkel in Debussy's only completed opera *Pelléas et Mélisande* from **30 June – 9 August**, in a new production directed by Stefan Herheim.

Turandot at The Royal Opera

Having made his Covent Garden debut in 2001 as Plutone in *L'anima del filosofo*, Sherratt has since sung many roles for **The Royal Opera**, including Sarastro in *Die Zauberflöte*, Prince Gremin in *Eugene Onegin*, and Sparafucile in *Rigoletto*, to name but a few. He returns for the revival of **Andrei Serban's** production of Puccini's final opera *Turandot*, in the role of Timur in performances between **8 – 16 July 2017**, alongside **Lise Lindstrom** as Princess Turandot.

Aida at English National Opera

Sherratt sings the role of Ramfis in **English National Opera's** bold new production of *Aida*, directed by **Phelim McDermott**, at the London Coliseum in sixteen performances from **28 September 2017**. The creative team behind ENO's award-winning production of *Akhnaten* return for this new version of Verdi's masterpiece, which sees Sherratt performing alongside **Latonia Moore** and **Morenike Fadayomi** as Aida, and **Matthew Best** as the King.

UK festival performances

Sherratt joins the **Orchestra and Chorus of Opera North** for two specially devised concert stagings of its acclaimed production of Britten's *Billy Budd* at the **Aldeburgh Festival** on **24 and 25 June 2017**, where he will sing the role of Claggart, a role which he has sung internationally to critical acclaim. The cast also includes **Roderick Williams** as Billy Budd and **Alan Oke** as Captain Verde.

Sherratt returns to the **BBC Proms** on **21 July 2017** for a concert performance of Beethoven's *Fidelio* with the **BBC Philharmonic**. Sherratt sings the role of Rocco alongside heldontenor **Stuart Skelton** as Florestan and soprano **Ricarda Merbeth** as Leonore, in a performance which will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 3, and televised on BBC Four on 30 July.

At the **Edinburgh International Festival** on **13 August 2017** at Usher Hall, Sherratt sings the role of Swallow in Britten's *Peter Grimes*, with the **Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra & Chorus** and conductor **Edward Gardner**. This concert forms a major part of the festival's 70th anniversary, and also stars **Stuart Skelton** as Peter Grimes and **Erin Wall** as Ellen Orford.

Further highlights

The **London Philharmonic Orchestra** under **Vladimir Jorowski** give a gala performance of Wagner's *Das Rheingold* on **27 January 2018** at the Royal Festival Hall. This semi-staged performance sees Sherratt sing the role of Fafner, and marks the 10th anniversary of Jorowski as Principal Conductor.

On **11 February 2018** Sherratt – a former long-time member of the **BBC Singers** - joins them as guest soloist for **Mendelssohn's performing edition of Bach's St Matthew Passion** at Milton Court. This rarely-performed 1829 edition played a major role in re-establishing Bach's music in the concert repertoire. Sherratt also joins the **Bach Choir** at the Royal Festival Hall on **18 March 2018** for a Passion Sunday performance of the **St Matthew Passion** sung in English, and on **30 March 2018** at the Sage in Gateshead, Sherratt is among the guest soloists singing alongside the **Royal Northern Sinfonia and Chorus** in a Good Friday performance of Bach's **St John Passion** conducted by **Harry Bicket**.

Notes to Editors

About Brindley Sherratt

Brindley Sherratt was born in Lancashire and studied trumpet and singing at the Royal Academy of Music, of which he is now a Fellow and Visiting Professor. He began his career in the BBC Singers, later moving into opera. He has a long association with the Royal Opera and English National Opera, making his Covent Garden debut in 2001 as Plutone in *L'anima del filosofo* and has since sung many roles for the Company, including Sarastro in *Die Zauberflöte*, Prince Gremin in *Eugene Onegin*, Sparafucile in *Rigoletto*, Ramfis in *Aida*, Narbal in *Les Troyens* and Oroveso in *Norma*. At the Coliseum his roles have included Sarastro, Prince Gremin, Pimen in *Boris Godunov* and Fiesco in *Simon Boccanegra*. He appears regularly with companies around the world, including the Metropolitan Opera, New York, Chicago Lyric Opera, the Hamburg and Vienna State Operas, Opernhaus Zürich, Netherlands Opera and the Glyndebourne, Aix-en-Provence and Salzburg festivals.

On the international concert stage, Sherratt appears widely with leading orchestras and period instrument ensembles under such conductors as Mark Elder, John Eliot Gardiner, Daniel Harding, Andris Nelsons, Yannick Nézet-Séguin and Antonio Pappano. He has performed on numerous recordings, including Opera Rara's recording of Donizetti's 'Les Martyrs', which won the CD (Complete Opera) Award at 2016's International Opera Awards.

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Listings

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| <p>Der Rosenkavalier Baron Ochs Welsh National Opera <u>Wales Millennium Centre</u> 4 – 17 June 2017 <u>Birmingham Hippodrome</u> 1 July 2017</p> | <p>Turandot Timur Royal Opera House 8, 11, 14, 16 July 2017</p> |
| <p>Billy Budd Claggart Aldeburgh Festival Snape Maltings 24 & 25 June 2017</p> | <p>Fidelio Rocco BBC Proms Royal Albert Hall 21 July 2017</p> |
| <p>Peter Grimes Swallow Edinburgh International Festival Usher Hall 13 August 2017</p> | <p>Aida Ramfis English National Opera London Coliseum 28 September – 2 December 2017</p> |
| <p>Das Rheingold Fafner Royal Festival Hall 27 January 2018</p> | <p>St Matthew Passion (Mendelssohn Edition) Christus Milton Court 11 February 2018</p> |
| <p>St Matthew Passion Royal Festival Hall 18 March 2018</p> | <p>St John Passion Sage Gateshead 30 March 2018</p> |
| <p>Der Rosenkavalier Baron Ochs Glyndebourne Festival 2018 20 May – 26 June 2018</p> | <p>Pelléas et Mélisande Arkel Glyndebourne Festival 2018 30 June – 9 August 2018</p> |