

BBC CARDIFF SINGER OF THE WORLD ROUND 3 WINNER ANNOUNCED

Amartuvshin Enkhbat, a 29 year old baritone from Mongolia was last night chosen to perform in the final of BBC Cardiff Singer of the World 2015.

Amartuvshin is one of the 20 finalists who have travelled to Cardiff from across the globe, performing their own programmes of operatic and concert works throughout this week. Mongolia is represented for the first time this year, along with Malta and The Democratic Republic of Congo.

Amartuvshin said:

“It’s been a very good night. I’m quite overwhelmed by it all and I not sure what to say. I’m in the final and now I have to prepare for it!”

Amartuvshin was born in Sukhbaatar and studied at the State University of Arts and Culture, Ulan Bator. He has won several awards, including second prize and the audience prize at the 2011 International Tchaikovsky Competition; joint first prize in Operalia 2012 and second prize at the International Singing Contest Francisco Vinas in 2103. Amartuvshin is Principal Soloist at the State Academic Opera House in Mongolia in Ulan Bator and was awarded Honored Artist of Mongolia at the age of 24. Roles he has performed in Mongolia include Escamillo, Morales (*Carmen*); Tonio (*Pagliacci*); Amonasro (*Aida*); Count di Luna (*Il trovatore*); Iago (*Otello*); Marcello (*La bohème*) and the title roles in *Eugene Onegin*, *Aleko*, *Genghis Khan* and *Rigoletto*. International appearances include performances in Paris, Moscow, New York, Beijing, Seoul and Singapore.

The singers, who were whittled down from nearly 350 competitors go head to head against each other in four rounds for a place in the Grand Final where they will perform in front of the distinguished jury and enthusiastic audience at St David’s Hall, Cardiff on Sunday, June 21. Judging the main prize is a panel comprising chairman and director of Welsh National Opera David Pountney, music director of The Norwegian Opera & Ballet John Fiore, Finnish soprano, and Cardiff Singer Alumna Soile Isokoski, American soprano Claron McFadden and Welsh operatic tenor Dennis O’Neill.

The four concerts broadcast on BBC Four presented by Petroc Trelawny and Angel Blue (Thursday 18, and Friday 19 June, 7.30pm). Evening highlights are presented by Tim Rhys-Evans with Josie D’Arby and Elin Manahan Thomas on BBC Two Wales at 10pm. And there is also further coverage daily on the BBC Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert with Iain Burnside, BBC Radio Wales with Welsh tenor Wynne Evans, Beverley Humphreys and Nicola Heywood Thomas and on BBC Radio Cymru’s **Bore Cothi**, presented by Shân Cothi.

www.bbc.co.uk/cardiffsinger

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