

Marcus Farnsworth
Baritone

Marcus Farnsworth was awarded first prize in the 2009 Wigmore Hall International Song Competition. He is currently studying with Glenville Hargreaves and Audrey Hyland on the opera course at the Royal Academy of Music where he has performed Sid in Britten *Albert Herring*, Oreste in Cavalli *Giasone* and excerpts including Il Conte *Le nozze di Figaro*, Fritz *Die Tote Stadt*, Frédéric *Lakmé*, Le Baron *Chérubin*, Ford *Falstaff* and the title role *Owen Wingrave*.

Current and future plans include Bach *St John Passion* (arias) with the Academy of Ancient Music; Bach *St Matthew Passion* (arias) with Ex Cathedra in Birmingham; Britten *Tit for Tat* song cycle with Malcolm Martineau and *Canticles* with Julius Drake and Mark Padmore, both as part of Wigmore Hall Britten Festival in 2012; two recitals as part of Julius Drake's *Schumann Week* at Middle Temple, London; a recital at the National Portrait Gallery with Simon Lepper and further recitals with Iain Burnside and James Baillieu.

Recent concerts include Brahms *Requiem* with the Waverley Singers; Duruflé *Requiem* with Schola Cantorum Oxford and *Messiah* with Sir David Willcocks at the Royal Albert Hall. Other concert repertoire includes Bach *Christmas Oratorio*, *Magnificat* and *Mass in B Minor*, Handel *Saul*, Fauré and Mozart *Requiems*; Rossini *Petite Messe Solennelle*, Finzi *In Terra Pax* and Vaughan Williams *Dona Nobis Pacem* and *Five Mystical Songs*

Marcus recently appeared in a recital at St John's Smith Square as part of Graham Johnson's Young Songmakers Almanac and gave a joint recital with Sarah Connolly at the Oxford Lieder Festival.

On the opera stage Marcus has performed Adonis in Blow *Venus and Adonis*, Aeneas in Purcell *Dido and Aeneas*, the Narrator in Britten *Paul Bunyan* and the title role in a semi-staged performance of Handel *Saul*. His future opera plans include Guglielmo *Così fan tutte* for the Royal Academy Opera and Dandini in Rossini *Cenerentola* for Clonter Opera.

Awards include the Sir Thomas Armstrong Prize, the 2009 Elena Gerhardt Lieder Prize, and the 2008 the Major van Someren-Godfrey Prize for English Song. Marcus is generously supported by the Josephine Baker Trust, the Countess of Munster Musical Trust and the Musician's Benevolent Fund.

August 2010 for updated version, please visit maxinerobertson.com