



Rhydian Jenkins is a 24 year old Tenor from Maesteg, South Wales, currently studying on the MA Opera Course at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama's David Seligman Opera School in Cardiff. Rhydian is currently taught by Adrian Thompson and John Fisher. Rhydian's studies at the David Seligman Opera School are supported by a RWCMD Scholarship, the Sybil Tutton Opera Award, the Countess of Munster Musical Award and the Musicians' Company Award. Rhydian has recently won the Michael Jones Contemporary Opera Prize and the Dorothy Davies Ingram Award.

In 2020, Rhydian played the roles of Ferrando (*Così fan tutte*) and Basilio (*Le Nozze di Figaro*) in the 2020 RWCMD Winter Opera Gala, with scenes conducted by John Fisher. In March 2021, he played the roles of Don Ottavio (*Don Giovanni*), Count Almaviva (*The Barber of Seville*) and Basilio (*The Marriage of Figaro*) in the college's Spring Opera productions. Most recently, Rhydian performed at the Wales Millennium Centre with the Welsh National Opera Orchestra in the 2021 RWCMD Opera Gala conducted by Carlo Rizzi. Rhydian also performed the role of Peter Quint from Benjamin Britten's *The Turn of the Screw* in the 2021 RWCMD Summer Opera, directed by Martin Constantine and conducted by David Jones. Rhydian's latest engagements include performing *Don Giovanni*, *Così fan tutte* and *Acis and Galatea* with Dorset Opera Festival as part of their Elite Chorus, and performing the role of Basilio/Don Curzio (*Le Nozze di Figaro*) with Saluzzo Opera Academy in Italy, and also covering the role of Tamino (*Die Zauberflöte*).

In 2019, having won three first prizes at the Urdd Eisteddfod, Rhydian won the coveted Urdd Bryn Terfel Scholarship. As the winner, he is scheduled to travel to Japan as part of the Welsh St. David's Day Festival celebrations, performing in a series of concerts and events in the cities of Tokyo and Kitakyushu (Covid permitting).

Rhydian is looking forward to his 2<sup>nd</sup> and final year on the Opera Course at the college, and wishes all competitors the very best of luck this evening.