

Russell Painter - Tenor

Russell gained his BMus and MMus at the prestigious Guildhall School of Music and Drama to study voice on an unconditional place under the tutelage of Mr Ian Kennedy. After leaving college Russell has made his mark as a freelance singer up and down the country and on the continent and is in great demand. Opera credits include Tamino (*The Magic Flute*), Title role in *Albert Herring*, Pedrillo (*The Abduction from the Seraglio*), Don Basillio (*The Marriage of Figaro*), Don Jose (*Carmen*), Count Almaviva (*The Barber of Seville*) Gaston (*La Traviata*) and the second brother in the world premiere of Laurence Roman's *Isabella and the Pot of Basil* at Covent Garden and Buxton. Choral works include Handel's *Messiah*, Haydn's *Creation*, *Nelson Mass & The Seasons*, Charpentier's *Messe De Minuit & Te Deum*, Gounod's *Messe Solennelle*, Haazen's *Missa Luba*, Mozart's *Requiem*, *Vesperae Solennes & Coronation Mass*, Rossini's *Petite Messe*, Stainer's *Crucifixion*, Beethoven's *Choral Symphony*, Britten's *St Nicholas*, Orff's *Carmina Burana* and numerous Bach cantatas and passions singing the role of the Evangelist.

Russell has a very keen interest in the works of Gilbert and Sullivan, going so far as to write his Masters thesis on their life and music. He has performed many of the principal tenor roles across the Savoy opera range including The Defendant, Marco, Frederic, Hilarion, Ralph, Captain Fitzbattleaxe, Richard Dauntless, Earl Tolloller, Duke, Alexis, Nanki-Poo and Box, only three left! Just recently Russell has been accepted to sing principal tenor in the world renowned "Grims Dyke Opera Company". His recital work is also recognized in other fields of English music, most recently song settings of the poetry of Housman in "The Blue Remembered Hills" for the Worcester festival.

Not only happy in operatic roles, Russell is also a keen concert recitalist and after dinner entertainer, having performed seven times with his Young Proms colleagues in the West Midlands area, and having raised over £100,000 for numerous local and national charities. Further afield Russell also works for the London agency Hartley Voices with its group AKA Opera providing unaccompanied opera classics for after dinner and wedding entertainment.

Russell is also very proud to have a strong group of private students for both vocal and music theory tuition, with many students reaching Grade 8 and even beyond to Diploma level.

When wanting warmer climes, Russell spends most summers performing in the south of France, ranging from full scale operas, to concerts in converted barns.

Russell is also a fellow of the London College of Music (FLCM).

Apart from his performing work Russell is a lover of real ale, a fully qualified safari park tour guide, a keen walker and a "NicFit" training fanatic!

To keep up-to-date with Russell's busy performing schedule, please visit www.russellpainter.co.uk