

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Kieron-Connor Valentine

Counter-Tenor

Artist Manager: Sioned Jones

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Winner of the 2019 Bath Opera Isobel Buchanan award, Welsh counter-tenor Kieron-Connor Valentine recently completed the opera course at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. He had previously completed his Master of Music, Vocal Performance Course at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Cardiff and Bachelor of Music Vocal Studies course from the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester.

Last season, Kieron made his company debut with English Touring Opera as **Adalberto** in Handel's *Ottone* and cover **Andronico** in Handel's *Tamerlano* and returned in the Spring to sing **Nireno** and cover *Tolomeo* in Giulio Cesare. He also covered the role of **Farnace** in Mozart's *Mitridate* for Garsington Opera. Other recent engagements include **Fate** in Judith Weir's *Miss Fortune* and **Orphee** in Charpentiers *Orphee descendant aux enfers* at the GSMD. He has also covered the role of **Mago Cristiano** in Handel's *Rinaldo* for Glyndebourne Touring Opera. During his time at the RNCM he performed **L'humana fragilita** in Monteverdi's *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria*, conducted by Roger Hamilton, **Oberon** in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, conducted by Andrew Greenwood and **Didymus** in Handel's *Theodora*, conducted by Roger Hamilton. In 2018 Kieron-Connor joined the Britten-Pears Programme at Aldeburgh Festival in the role of **Didymus** in *Theodora*. During summer 2017 Kieron recorded the soundtrack to a new Welsh opera film, commissioned by Welsh National Opera and S4C and composed by Stephen McNeff, based on the life of the 1st World War poet, Hedd Wyn.

Concert highlights include a recital of Renaissance and Baroque song at Cadogan Hall, Chelsea as part of the London Master Class Series; a UK tour with the Military Wives and his debut at the BBC Proms as The Lost Boy in the world premiere of The Water Diviners Tale, conducted by David Charles Abell. He has performed Beethoven's Mass in C Major, conducted by Ian Chesworth at St. Michael and All Saints Church, Macclesfield; Handel's Messiah, conducted by Owen Roberts at St. Giles Parish Church, Wrexham; Jenkins' The Armed Man, conducted by Owen Roberts at William Aston Hall, Wrexham; Orff's Carmina Burana, conducted by Richard Lea at the Metropolitan Cathedral, Liverpool and Bernstein's Chichester Psalms, conducted by John Powell at the Royal Northern College of Music Concert Hall. Recent competition successes include the 2018 Douglas Rees Memorial Young Opera Singer of the Year, the 2018 Morriston Orpheus Welsh Singer of the Year and the 2018 Dunraven Welsh Young Singer. Over the years, he has won the titles of Southport Singer of the Year; Liverpool Singer of the Year; The Stiwt Young Singer of the Year; Liverpool's Most Promising Singer of the Year Award.

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