

# ARTIST BIOGRAPHY



## Sioned Gwen Davies

Mezzo-Soprano

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Sioned Gwen was born in Colwyn Bay, North Wales. She gained her M.Mus. degree from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London and completed her post graduate studies on their Opera Course in 2012. Sioned Gwen is one of the first recipients of a Career Development Award from the Bryn Terfel Foundation. She is also thankful to The Worshipful Company of Girdlers for their kind sponsorship. Sioned completed her training at the National Opera Studio in London in 2015, and gratefully acknowledges the generous financial support of Glyndebourne Festival Opera who have provided her with a Young Artist Development Award.

Following her success in the Welsh Singers Competition 2016, Sioned recently had the honour of representing Wales in the prestigious, BBC Cardiff Singer of the World Competition, 2017. Other competition successes include first prize winner in the 2009 Llangollen International Eisteddfod, first prize winner the 2009 National Eisteddfod of Wales and she was awarded the most outstanding performer at the 2009 North London Festival. She was also a finalist in 'The Jackdaws Great Elm Vocal Awards' at the Wigmore Hall, London and 'The Thelma King Award' in Bath.

In 2013, Sioned performed the role of **Kate** in *The Pirates of Penzance* for Scottish Opera and was subsequently offered an Emerging Artist contract with the company for the 2013/14 season where her roles included **Eduige** in *Rodelinda* and **Third Witch** in *Macbeth*. Other roles include the **Title Role** in a Welsh language translation of **Carmen** at the National Eisteddfod of Wales with Opra Cymru. In 2012, she performed the role of **Margarida** in *The Yellow Sofa* for Glyndebourne Festival Opera's Jerwood Project, both in the Festival and autumn tour, returning to the festival in 2014 to cover the roles of **Olga** in *Eugene Onegin* and **Annina** in *La Traviata*.

Whilst a student, Sioned performed the roles of **Marcellina** in *Le nozze di Figaro* and **Frau Reich** in *Die Lustigen Weiber von Windsor* for British Youth Opera. Roles performed at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama were **Hermia** in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, **Marta** in *Iolanta*, and **Mere Jeanne** in *Dialogues des Carmelites*. She also covered **Madame de Croissy** in *Dialogues des Carmelites* and understudied **Florence Pike** in *Albert Herring*.

Concert highlights include Henze's *Voices* at the Barbican Hall, London, the Alto Solo in Stravinsky's *Les Noces* in LSO St. Lukes, London, Handel's *Messiah* with the Lund Chamber Choir in Sweden and Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music* accompanied by Graham Johnson. Sioned Gwen also performed in a concert in the presence of His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, at Caerphilly Castle.

Recent engagements include her Spanish debut as **Olga** in *Eugene Onegin* with Opera Valladolid, **Third Dryad** in *Rusalka*, **Pitti-Sing** in *The Mikado* and an Opera Highlights Tour of Scotland with Scottish Opera, **Second Lady** in *The Magic Flute* with Longborough Festival Opera and cover **Edwige** in *Rodelinda* for English National Opera. Future plans include **Olga** in *Eugene Onegin* and **Stewardess** in *Flight* with Scottish Opera.

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