



## JUSTIN WELSH BARITONE

The burgeoning career of British Columbia baritone **Justin Welsh** was given new impetus by his recent success as *Crown* in *PORGY AND BESS* with Kent Nagano conducting l'Orchestre symphonique de Montréal. *Queegueg* in the Canadian premiere of *MOBY DICK* for Calgary Opera was another career highlight, praised by the Calgary Herald's Kenneth Delong, who noted that "*Justin Welsh brings a finely drawn vocal technique to the part, his voice beautiful throughout the register. Dramatically, too, Welsh's role was exceptionally well-realized, a major accomplishment as a singing actor.*" He has also been recently heard as *Marcello* in *LA BOHEME* for l'Opéra de Montréal and *Papageno* in *THE MAGIC FLUTE* and *Figaro* in *LE NOZZE DI FIGARO* for Pacific Opera Victoria. Of particular note is Vivier's *MUSIC FÜR DAS ENDE* produced by Soundstreams with upcoming performances in Toronto and at the Holland Festival in 2018. He will also be heard in Against the Grain's project for the fall of 2017, *BOUND*.

A former member of the Canadian Opera Company Ensemble Studio, he was featured in Ensemble productions of *SWOON* (World Premiere), *COSI FAN TUTTE* as Guglielmo and *DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE* as Papageno. On the COC's mainstage, he has appeared as *Fiorello* in *IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA*, *Dancaire* in *CARMEN* and the *Herald* in *OTELLO*. Welsh is a past Fellow at Tanglewood's Summer Institute and has appeared with Tapestry New Opera Works, in the COC's *NIGHTINGALE* production in Brooklyn, toured with Jeunesses Musicales as *Belcore* in *L'ELISIR D'AMORE* and sang *Slender* in *VOICEBOX: Opera in Concert's* presentation of Salieri's rarely heard *FALSTAFF*. Further credits include *MESSIAH* for the Winnipeg, Victoria and Regina symphonies, Fauré's *REQUIEM* with Choeur St. Laurent, *MATTHÄUS PASSION* with the Guelph Chamber Choir and Grand Philharmonic Choir, Beethoven's *Mass in C* and Bach's *MAGNIFICAT* with the Regina Philharmonic Chorus and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* with the Niagara Symphony.

Awards include First Place in the Kurt Weill Competition and an encouragement award from the Louis and Cristina Quilico competition. He holds a Master's of Music Degree from the University of British Columbia and participated in young artist programmes in the Czech Republic and in Sulmona, Italy.

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