

## **ASHLEY RICHES – BARITONE**

Ashley Riches studies on the Opera Course at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Previously, he studied English at Cambridge University, where he was a member of the King's College Chapel Choir under Stephen Cleobury.

His operatic roles include the title role in Don Giovanni (Cambridge University Opera Society), Marcello (*La Boheme*, British Youth Opera, cover), Sid (*Albert Herring*, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, cover), Aeneas (*Dido and Aeneas*, Hampstead Garden Opera), Father (*Hansel and Gretel*, Cambridge University Opera Society) and King Mark (*Le Vin Herbé* by Frank Martin, Ardente Opera).

His concert work includes Britten's *War Requiem* with Jan Latham-Koenig and Novaya Opera in Moscow and also with David Hill, Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* and Brahms *German Requiem* with Stephen Cleobury, Fauré's *Requiem* with Sir David Willcocks, Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs* with John Rutter and Mozart *Solemn Vespers* with Gwyn Arch at the Meylan Festival. He has given song recitals at Barbican Hall, the City of London Festival, Chelsea Schubert Festival and Ludlow English Song Weekend.

Future plans include Mozart's *Requiem* with David Hill and the Bach Choir in the Royal Festival Hall and next year Bach *St John Passion* with Stephen Cleobury and Choir of King's College, Cambridge at Cadogan Hall and Mahler *Lieder eines Fahrenden Gesellen* with Cambridge University Graduate Orchestra.

In 2009 Ashley received an Ian Fleming Award from the Musicians Benevolent Fund and was the winner of the Guildhall School Aria Competition. Ashley's studies are currently supported by a scholarship from the Guildhall, an award from the Countess of Munster Musical Trust and a Sybil Tutton Award administered by the Musicians Benevolent Fund.