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ALEXANDER ROBIN BAKER
Tenor

"Alexander Robin Baker makes a perfect, and at times touchingly sympathetic foil as the two fathers..."

Father – Other Father: Coraline / Royal Opera, London / The Guardian



Winner of Second Prize at the 2008 Kathleen Ferrier Memorial Competition, Alexander Robin Baker graduated from the National Opera Studio in Summer 2012. Born in Epsom, Surrey, he was a Music Scholar at the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook, graduated in July 2007 B.Mus. with first-class honours from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, graduating from the Post Graduate Vocal Studies Course under the tuition of David Pollard. During his time at the Guildhall he took part in many Concerts and Masterclasses, most notably with Sir John Tomlinson, Graham Johnson and Sarah Walker.

He began his career as a baritone singing **Smirnov** *The Bear* with the Nederlandse Reisopera RAP at the Grachtenfestival, Amsterdam, and during 2010 / 2011, made debuts with Glyndebourne Festival Opera as **Novice's Friend** *Billy Budd* and with Glyndebourne On Tour as **Mercurio** *L'Incoronazione di Poppea*. He won the 2010 Glyndebourne On Tour Donald A. Anderson Award and was a Jerwood Young Artist at the 2011 Glyndebourne Festival singing **The Huntsman** *Rusalka*. He returned to Glyndebourne to create **Neto** in Julian Phillips' *The Yellow Sofa* both at the Festival and on the Tour.

He made his debut with English National Opera as **Fiorello** *The Barber of Seville*, returning as **Gizmo** *The Way Back Home*, **Yamadori** *Madam Butterfly*, **Happy** *The Girl of the Golden West* and **Samuel** *The Pirates of Penzance*. He also sang **The Vicar** *Albert Herring* for The Grange Festival, **Starveling** *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for Bergen National Opera and at the Hyogo Performing Center, Japan, **Anfinomo** *The Return of Ulysses* for Iford Arts, **Papageno** *The Magic Flute* and **Schaunard** *La bohème* for Nevill Holt Opera, **Schaunard** for Stone Brewing Meets Opera, Berlin, and **Figaro** *Il barbiere di Siviglia* for Rossini 2016.

Concert engagements included J. S. Bach *Cantata No. 11* and *Easter Oratorio* with the Israel Camerata, *Messiah* with Collegium Musicum, Bergen C. P. E. Bach *Magnificat* with the Brighton Philharmonic Orchestra, the *B Minor Mass* with the Royal Northern Sinfonia, *The Dream of Gerontius* with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, *Fauré Requiem* with the City of London Sinfonia and the Philharmonia Orchestra, *Messiah* with the Royal Choral Society and Collegium Musicum, Bergen, Edward Harper's *Second Symphony* with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, **The Forester** *The Cunning Little Vixen Suite* with the London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Vladimir Jurowski, David Mathews' *Marina* in the Composers' Portrait series, broadcast live on Radio 3, **Chichibio** *The Goose of Cairo* with the London Mozart Players, *Carmina Burana* with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Phil Venables' *The Revenge of Miguel Cotto* with the London Sinfonietta and the première of Kernal Yusuf's *Cain* with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra at the Norfolk & Norwich Festival.

He has appeared at the Aldeburgh, Chipping Campden and Ponte de Lima, Portugal, Festivals, and has worked with the Brandenburg Sinfonia, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonia Orchestra and the Ten Tors Orchestra. Conductors with whom he has worked include Keri-Lynn Wilson, Fabio Biondi, Avner Biron, Martyn Brabbins, Richard Cooke, Sir Andrew Davies, Edward Gardner, Simon Ible, Stephen Layton, Paul McCreech, Frank Ollu, Simon Over, David Parry, Yutaka Sado, Ivor Setterfield and Jeremy Silver.

His recordings include **Novice's Friend** *Billy Budd* from Glyndebourne, available on Opus Arte DVD / Blu Ray and **Francesco** in Edward Loder's *Raymond and Agnes* with the Royal Ballet Sinfonia conducted by Richard Bonyngé for Retrospect Opera

During 2017 / 2018, Alexander Robin Baker created **Father / Other Father** in Mark Anthony Turnage's *Coraline* for the Royal Opera, London.

He has recently made the transition to tenor and continues his studies with David Pollard.