



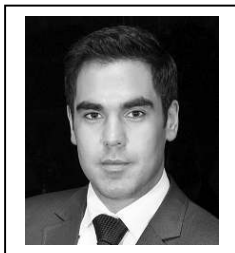
## Alison Kettlewell - *Mezzo soprano* Angel

Alison graduated in drama before studying singing at the Royal Northern and Royal College of Music (Opera Course). She is the winner of AsLiCo Young European Opera Singers' Competition and finalist in Kathleen Ferrier Awards.

Alison has sung solo roles in productions of *Werther*, *Madame Butterfly*, *Così fan tutte* and *The Consul* for Opera Holland Park; *Carmen* for Raymond Gubbay at the Royal Albert Hall; *Don Giovanni* in Pisa, *L'Isola di Merlin* at Cremona, Mantova and Brescia; *Gustavo il re di Svezia* at the Montepulciano Festival; *La Calisto* at the Batignano Festival; *Arminio* for the London Handel Festival; *La scala di seta* at the Wexford Festival; *Samson and Delilah*; *The Juniper Tree* (world premiere) by Roderick Watkins for Almeida Opera and Munich Biennale; *Ion* by Param Vir for Opera du Rhin and Music Theatre Wales in Strasbourg, Berlin and Linbury Studio Theatre, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; *Early Earth Operas*, *Adriana Lecouvreur* for Chelsea Opera Group.

Her repertoire also includes *Romeo, I Capuleti e i Montecchi*; *Rosina, Il barbiere di Siviglia*, *Cherubino, Le nozze di Figaro*; *Donna Elvira, Don Giovanni* and *Bessie* in Kurt Weill's *Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny*.

Concert engagements range from the Bach *Passions* to Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* and the Verdi *Requiem*. Alison has appeared at major UK venues including The Royal Albert Hall. She has sung with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra, Northern Sinfonia and in a live broadcast on Radio 3's "In Tune".



## Ben Thapa - *Tenor* Gerontius / Soul of Gerontius

Ben Thapa was born in the UK and is a graduate of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the Royal College of Music, London. He currently works with Adrian Thompson.

His concert repertoire includes solo roles in works by Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Rachmaninov, Vaughan Williams and Elgar. Recently he made his début at St John's, Smith Square in Mozart's *Requiem*.

On the operatic stage, Ben's roles include *Corebo, La Didone* for the Guildhall School of Music; *Telemaco, Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria*; the title role of *Jephthe* at the Ryedale Festival, *Tamino, The Magic Flute* with Kennet Opera and *Mat of the Mint, The Beggar's Opera* at the Linbury Studio Theatre at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. Ben has appeared in *Fidelio* for Garsington Opera. Most recently he performed the role of *Vanya Kudryash* in *Kátya Kabanová* with Scottish Opera on Tour.

Ben's future plans include Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music* and Tippett's *Negro Spirituals* at the Cadogan Hall.

## Francisco Javier Borda - *Bass*

Francisco Javier Borda, who is resident in the UK, speaks English, French, German and Italian. He also has Russian. He completed the Opera Course at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama after studying at Hochschule für Musik und Kunst in Vienna and History of Art at the University of Navarra. He has undertaken Masterclasses with, among others, Martineau, Dalton Baldwin, Paul Farrington, Paul Della Jones as well as participating in the Martina in New York. He is currently working with Janice



born in Pamplona, Spain and has a working knowledge of Spanish. He is a Samling Scholar and has studied with Graham Johnson, Malcolm Plishka, Robin Bowman and Arroyo Foundation Program Chapman.

He has performed bass roles in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, *L'Heure Espagnole*, *The Rape of Lucretia* and *Tosca*.

Francisco Javier Borda has also performed at various concert venues including the Aula Universität in Salzburg with the Salzburger Kammerphilharmonie and the Auditorio Nacional (*Messiah* and *Creation*) in Mexico City with the New World Orchestra.

His operatic repertoire includes the roles of *Sarastro (Die Zauberflöte)*, *Osmin (Die Entführung aus dem Serail)*, *Basilio (Il barbiere di Siviglia)*, *Sparafucile (Rigoletto)*, and *Gremm (Eugene Onegin)*.

Most recently Francisco Javier Borda appeared in *Eliogabalo (Cavalli)* for Grange Park Opera under Christian Curnyn. He will return to Grange Park next season to perform in *Love for Three Oranges*. Future engagements include *Carmen* for Scottish Opera on tour.



## Tom Corfield - *Organ*

Tom Corfield trained at the Royal Academy of Music and the University of East Anglia where he was organ scholar. Following four years in Leeds as sub-organist of the Parish Church and a further period of study, he moved to Derby in 1985.

He combines the post of assistant organist at Derby Cathedral with part-time teaching.