

ENGLISH

David Alexander Barnard CF

After initial undergraduate studies in Australia with Diana Harris OAM, David moved to the UK where he was accepted into the prestigious Britten-Pears School, British Youth Opera and Yehudi Menuhin Live Music Now program. His UK-based career then began, spanning; opera, song and chamber music with recitals, radio broadcasts, alongside his work as a vocal coach and répétiteur.

David has collaborated with numerous instrumentalists, including members of the Australian Defence Force, New Zealand String Quartet, the BBC, London, Adelaide, Sydney, Los Angeles, New York, Melbourne, Royal Concertgebouw, Antwerp, New Zealand Symphony & Philharmonic Orchestras, as well as playing orchestral piano & celeste for the Melbourne, Adelaide, New Zealand, BBC Symphony and Bruckner Orchestras. David is most celebrated for his recital work with singers, including; Janis Kelly, Richard Suart, Sarah Fox, Lesley Garrett CBE, Rosamund Illing, José Carbó, Elizabeth Campbell, Liane Keegan and Robert Tucker. Piano duet partners have included Malcolm Martineau OBE, Tom Bitterlich and Leslie Howard. Radio credits include, BBC Radio 3, BBC Scotland, RTÉ, 3mbs Melbourne, 5mbs Adelaide, ABC Classic FM (Australia), ORF (Austria), SWR (Germany) and RNZ Concert.

Festival appearances include; Oxford International Lieder, London Song Fest, Leeds Lieder+, Edinburgh & Buxton Fringe Festivals, Schwetzingen Festspiele, as well as many guest appearances, gala performances and concert tours, in Spain, France, Italy, Slovenia, Ireland, Poland, Germany, Austria, Zimbabwe, Australia and New Zealand. As répétiteur, Opera companies include; Opera North, English Touring Opera, English National Opera, Gilbert & Sullivan Company, Raymond Gubbay Ltd, Opera Australia, Landestheater Linz, Landestheater Niederbayern, Opera Massy (Paris), Opera Osuna (Seville).

After working in the UK and Europe for many years, David returned to the Southern Hemisphere, as the Head of Music for the State Opera of South Australia, whilst working concurrently for the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music. David also worked in New Zealand where he was the Head of Accompanying and Vocal Coaching, at the New Zealand School of Music. During his time in the Southern Hemisphere, David co-wrote a Master's of Performance (Opera) for the MCM, and re-worked the piano accompaniment curriculum into Collaborative Piano for the NZSM, in line with international models. He has also adjudicated major Australian prizes such as the ABC Australian Young Performer of the Year (Chamber Music), the Australian National Lieder Festival and the Geoffrey Parsons (Accompanist) Prize.

David returned to the UK to continue his investigative work as a Winston Churchill Fellow (CF) alongside freelance work, both in the UK and Europe. He was invited to work at the Teatro Maggio Musicale (Florence) as a guest vocal coach on their prestigious young artist programme. He was also engaged as a guest vocal coach at the Royal Northern College of Music (Manchester) on the post-graduate programme, before undertaking a three-year contract in Austria as Deputy Chorus Master and Solokorrepetitor, for Landestheater Linz, until the end of the 2026 season.

David is a Winston Churchill Fellow, member of the Musicians' Union (UK) and a member of the Royal Society of Musicians (UK).

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