

JESS DANDY Contralto



Jess Dandy studied at Trinity College, Cambridge and Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where she held a fellowship and graduated with distinction. She was the winner of the London Bach Society Singers Prize 2017 and the 2018 Oxford Lieder Young Artist Platform, and is a Britten-Pears Young Artist and Heidelberger Frühling Scholar. She studies with Gary Coward.

Jess is co-founder with mezzo-soprano, Joanna Harries, of **SongPath**, an initiative founded to promote walking and music-making in the context of mental health, by exploring the routes and roots of the local landscape. To this end, she is the recipient of the Royal Overseas League Roderick Lakin Memorial Scholarship.

Her opera highlights include two Royal Opera House workshops on new works by Soumik Datta/Glynn Maxwell, and Philip Venables **4.48 Psychosis**. Jess also covered the role of the Messenger and was a member of the ensemble in the ROH/Roundhouse production of Monteverdi **Orfeo** with director Michael Boyd and conductor Christopher Moulds, and played multi-part contralto roles in Jack Furness' production of **Into the Little Hill** for Shadwell Opera, and in the première of Alex Mills's **Dear Marie Stopes** at the Tête-à-Tête Opera Festival.

On the concert platform appearances include **Samson** (Micah) with John Butt and the Dunedin Consort at the Händel-Festspiele Halle, **Mass in B Minor** at Wigmore Hall, Mozart **Requiem** at St Martin-in-the-Fields, Berlioz **Roméo et Juliette** at the Barbican and Salle Pleyel with the London Symphony Orchestra and Valery Gergiev, and Andriessen **De Staat** at the Queen Elizabeth Hall with Simon Wills. Jess is also an experienced ensemble singer with the Monteverdi Choir, The King's Consort, Le Concert d'Astrée, Polyphony, the Gabrieli Consort and Philharmonia Voices.

Recent highlights include solo recitals at the Oxford Lieder festival, Charles Villiers Stanford's **Mass Via Victrix** and Handel **Messiah** with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Mozart **Requiem** with the Choir of King's College, Cambridge, further **Messiah** performances with the Hallé orchestra and at Hereford Cathedral, and Berlioz **Les Nuits d'été** with the BBC Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Douglas Boyd.

Engagements later this season include **St John Passion** with William Christie and Les Arts Florissants on tour in Europe, and with Stephen Layton and the Adelaide and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras, **Mass in B Minor** in Leipzig and **St Matthew Passion** at the Boston Early Music Festival, both with the Dunedin Consort, and Handel **Israel in Egypt** at the Three Choirs Festival. Further upcoming highlights include Beethoven **Missa Solemnis** at Queen Elizabeth Hall with Crouch End Festival Chorus, Beethoven **Symphony No.9** with Sir John Eliot Gardiner and the Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique, and Eduige in Handel's **Rodelinda** with the Harry Bicket and the English Concert.

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