

René's vocal training began as a treble in Canterbury Cathedral Choir and he has never looked back, becoming a member of the National Youth Choir of Great Britain shortly after his voice broke. He graduated from The University of Nottingham with a BA (Hons) in 2010, where he performed regularly with a number of choirs in the East Midlands and as a member the University Opera Society. In September 2011 René began a postgraduate in Vocal Performance at the Royal Academy of Music and studied under the tutelage of Ryland Davies and the in-demand vocal coach Audrey Hyland. He was awarded the Nora Carstairs Bland Award 2012/2013 and graduated with distinction in June 2013.

On the opera stage René has performed the roles of Figaro (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*), Marcello (*La Boheme*), Morales/Dancairo (*Carmen*), Marco (*Gianni Schicchi*), Orfeo (*L'Orfeo*), Malatesta (*Don Pasquale*), Baron Duphol (*La Traviata*), Taddeo (*L'Italiana in Algeri*), Guglielmo and Don Alfonso (*Così fan Tutte*) and Mercurio (*La Calisto*) and his concert work has included Bach's *Johannes* and *Matthaus Passion*, Brahms' *A German Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, Monteverdi's *Vespers*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Duruflé's *Requiem* and Stainer's *The Crucifixion*. Whilst he enjoys these oratorio settings he also has a passion for song cycles, of which he has performed Beethoven's *An Die Ferne Geliebte*, Butterworth's *A Shropshire Lad* and Vaughan-Williams' *Songs of Travel*.

René continues to study with Ryland Davies and is thankful to those who continue to support his developing career.