

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. Now working professionally in London and around the UK, René studies with David Barrell.

On the operatic stage René he has performed the roles of Figaro (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*), Eugene Onegin (*Eugene Onegin*), Marcello (*La Boheme*), Belcore (*L'elisir d'amore*), Morales/Dancairo (*Carmen*), Larkens (*La Fanciulla del West*), Marco (*Gianni Schicchi*), Salieri (*Mozart and Salieri*), Orfeo (*L'Orfeo*), Malatesta (*Don Pasquale*), Baron Duphol (*La Traviata*) and has worked with companies such as Garsington Opera Festival, Wexford Festival Opera, Opera Holland Park and Opera South East. His concert work has included Bach's *Johannes* and *Matthaus Passion*, Bach's *B Minor Mass*, Brahms' *A German Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, 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*.

In the Summer René will be working with The Grange Festival singing chorus in their productions of Falstaff and Belshazzar and with Iford Arts as a New Generation Artist in their production of *L'elisir d'amore*.