

With his warm timbre and stylish lyricism, Irish tenor Graham Cooper is already drawing international attention as an accomplished soloist. Graham enjoys a wide range of repertoire ranging from the renaissance and baroque to classical, romantic and the present day. Highlights from the current 2022/23 season include performing the role of Ferrando in Escales Lyriques' *Così Fan Tutte* in **Théâtre Les Cytises**, singing Bach's *Cantata BWV 99 "Erschütze Dich, Nur Nicht"* with Philippe Herreweghe in the **Concertgebouw Brugge** and premiering James Wood's *Apokalypsis* in, amongst other venues, **De Bijloke** and **Concertgebouw Amsterdam**.

Graham's first staged experience was performing the roles of Prince Yamadori with Bath Opera in Puccini's *Madame Butterfly* and both Don Curzio and Basilio in Edinburgh Studio Opera's production of Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*. He has since performed in Milhaud's *Trois Opéras-Minute* in **Musikakademie Rheinsberg**, the **Komische Oper Berlin** in the chorus of Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice* and **Opera Ballet Vlaanderen** in the chorus of Schumann's **Szenen aus Goethe's Faust**. He has also enjoyed semi-staged performances of Handel's *Esther* and *Messiah* with the Irish Baroque Orchestra and Sestina as a soloist.

Graham has recently enjoyed great success as a Lied singer, winning a special prize in the Triomphe de l'Art competition and second prize in the Clara Schumann Competition with pianist Stephanie Daelemans. The duo are enjoying a busy concert and competition schedule this season with highlights including a special collaboration with **Klarafestival BOX** in Brussels in February.

As a concert soloist Graham has convinced as the Evangelist in von Herzogenberg's *Die Geburt Christi*, a tour of Charpentier's *Music for the Sun King* with players from the Irish Baroque Orchestra, and a world premiere of Anne-Marie O'Farrell's *Civil War Cantata* with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra under the baton of Ciarán Crilly as well as enjoying regular performances of the standard repertoire of composers ranging from Bach to Mendelssohn.

Graham works regularly with world-class orchestras such as the Orchestre des Champs-Élysées, Salzburg Camerata, Antwerp Symphony Orchestra and the Irish Baroque Orchestra in collaboration with conductors including Philippe Herreweghe, Harry Christophers, Eamonn Dougan, Sophie Jeannin, Peter Whelan, and David Bates.

Also an accomplished ensemble singer, Graham has already performed in all of the major concert halls in Europe and enjoys an exciting concert schedule, singing regularly with Collegium Vocale Gent in Belgium, Sestina and the Irish Baroque Orchestra in Ireland/Northern Ireland, and Echo Vocal Ensemble in London, England. He also sings with Balthasar-Neumann Chor and Vocalconsort Berlin in Germany and Chamber Choir Ireland and Resurgam in Ireland. 2022/23 highlights include a tour to Tel Aviv and Jerusalem with Collegium Vocale Gent to perform Mozart's *C Minor Mass* and a tour of Bach's *Johannes Passion* with the small ensemble of Collegium Vocale Gent.

Graham's path to becoming a professional musician was not the conventional route. Although he started singing, piano and cello lessons in school in Northern Ireland from a young age, he moved to England on a choral scholarship to study Psychology at the University of Bath. While studying his Masters in Cognitive Neuropsychology at the University of Edinburgh, he took up a position as a Lay Clerk at **St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral** and was accepted to the Genesis Sixteen program under direction of Harry Christophers and Eamonn Dougan. He then moved to Berlin to study his PhD in Medical Neuroscience at Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin and during this time completed the Schola scheme with Berlin's Radio Choir. Since his time in Edinburgh he has been performing in professional ensembles, operas and as a concert soloist and has been singing full time since completing his PhD in 2021. He is currently studying with Lothar Odinius and receiving coaching from Philip Mayers.