



SEÁN TESTER

TENOR



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BIOGRAPHY

A graduate of the Royal Irish Academy of Music, Irish lyric tenor **Seán Tester** is building a growing presence on both the opera and concert stage. Upcoming engagements include **El Remendado** in Bizet's *Carmen* with **If Opera**, **tenor soloist** in Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* with the **Worthing Symphony Orchestra**, **Prince Nilsky** in Prokofiev's *The Gambler* and **Brian** in Alberto Caruso's new opera *The First Festival* at **Wexford Festival Opera 2026**.

The **2025/26 season** marked an important stage in his development. He made his **Wexford Festival Opera** debut as a recipient of the **Danone Young Outstanding Artist Award**, joining the Wexford Factory to sing **Conte di Libenskof** in Rossini's *Il viaggio a Reims* and to take part in the world premiere of *Urban Legends* by Andrew Synnott and Colm Tóibín. He also debuted with **National Symphony Orchestra Ireland** as **El Remendado** in *Carmen* at the **National Concert Hall, Dublin**, in a performance broadcast live on **RTÉ Lyric FM**. Earlier in the season, he made his **London oratorio debut** as tenor soloist in Mozart's *Requiem in D minor, K.626* at the **Royal Festival Hall** with the **Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra**.

Recognised for his promise, Seán is the **inaugural RIAM Emerging Artist Fellow**. As part of **RTÉ Lyric FM's New Generation Voices**, he recorded two arias with the **RTÉ Concert Orchestra**. He also serves as **Series Ambassador for Drogheda Classical Music Series** and is an **Artist in Association with Droichead Arts Centre** for 2026.

Recent seasons have seen him establish a broad repertoire across Ireland and abroad. His **international operatic role debut** came in Switzerland as **Rodolphe** in Rossini's *Guillaume Tell* in a co-production between **Irish National Opera** and **Nouvel Opéra Fribourg/Neue Oper Freiburg**. This season Seán appeared as **Arbace** in Mozart's *Idomeneo* at London's **Cadogan Hall**. With **Irish National Opera**, he has also appeared in *La Bohème*, *La Traviata*, *Faust*, *Der fliegende Holländer* and *Rigoletto*, covering **Il Duca di Mantova**. In 2025 he returned to the **Blackwater Valley Opera Festival** as **Snout** in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, also appearing in recital at the festival. Other appearances include roles in Argento's *Postcard from Morocco* and Purcell's *The Fairy Queen* at the **Korkyra Baroque Festival, Croatia** and **Sligo Baroque Festival, Ireland**.

As a concert and oratorio soloist, his repertoire includes **Messiah**, **Johannes-Passion**, **Carmina Burana** and **The Seven Last Words of Christ**. He has appeared with the **Dublin Bach Singers**, **Drogheda Classical Music Series**, and **Dublin Song Series**, made his international recital debut at the **Franz Liszt Academy, Budapest** with pianist Ella Nagy, and performed at both the **Dublin International Chamber Music Festival** singing Brahms's *Liebeslieder Walzer* and **RIAM ChamberFest 2025** performing Chausson's *Poème de l'amour et de la mer*.

Seán's artistic journey began in Drogheda, where he trained at the **Drogheda School of Performing Arts** and sang with **St Peter's Male Voice Choir**. He later completed both the **Recital Artist Diploma** and a **Master's in Music Performance** at the Royal Irish Academy of Music, graduating with distinction as a **BVOF|RIAM John Pollard Bursary recipient**.