

BIOGRAPHIES

Andrew Blankfield (Piano) has for many years combined a career as a City law firm partner with a busy schedule of chamber music in Hertfordshire and around. He gives regular recitals with the ACE Trio in London and Oxford, and has performed piano concertos by Beethoven, Mozart and Schumann with the Amadeus Chamber Orchestra of St Albans and the London Lawyers' Symphony Orchestra. He is a trustee of Aurora Orchestra and Benslow Music.

Harriet Burns (Soprano) is studying with Yvonne Kenny at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama on the Opera Course programme. She is a Samling Artist, Oxford Lieder Artist, and a Britten-Pears Young Artist. Her successful career has just seen the release of her debut album, volume VIII of Graham Johnson's Complete Brahms Lieder on Hyperion, followed by second prize at the 2019 Wigmore Hall/Independent Opera International Song Competition, with pianist Michael Pandya .

Victoria Edge (Originator and Project Developer) is an Associate of the Royal College of Music for singing performance and a graduate in German at Birkbeck College, London University. She specialises in German poetry and song and her article, *The Winter Journey of Wilhelm Müller* was recently published in *Musical Opinion*.

Iain Sneddon (Editor, Robert Franz, Osterwald Liederbuch) specialises in the works of Betty Roe, Isaac Nathan, Carl Loewe, Adolf Jensen, and Vaclav Tomašek. His articles about Betty Roe have been published in *Musical Opinion* and the British Music Society Newsletter. He is the chief editor for Robish Music and published the collection *The Silver Hound and Other Songs* to accompany a recording of Betty Roe's songs on Métier Records (MSV 28566), which he also co-produced.

Connor Smith is a Scottish tenor and postgraduate in Vocal Studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, under professors Robert Dean and Adrian Thompson. These studies are generously supported by a scholarship from the GSMD, and The Sydney Perry Foundation. He is a graduate of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland's Vocal Department. He has worked extensively around the country as a soloist and chorister with companies including Scottish Opera (*Nixon in China*, *Rigoletto*, *Edgar*, *Silvano*, *The Magic Flute*, *Tosca*, *Iris*), the Scottish Fiddle Orchestra, Fox Opera (*Le Docteur Miracle*), The About Turn Theatre Company (*Orpheus and Eurydice*, *Edinburgh Fringe 2015*) and Opera Bohemia (*The Pearl Fishers 2017*, *The Merry Widow 2019*). His recent operatic roles include Tamino in *The Magic Flute*, Lensky in *Eugene Onegin*, Third Jew in *Salome* and Alfredo in *La Traviata*. As well as enjoying an increasingly busy singing schedule, Connor is also the musical director of Cathures Choir in Glasgow, having also been Assistant Conductor for Ayr Choral Union. He was also the founder of the Wellington Church Concert Series in Glasgow, which he managed from 2015-2020.

Marc Verter (Piano) is a versatile pianist, song accompanist, concert producer, vocal coach and répétiteur. He has performed and worked internationally, was artistic director at the Chelsea Schubert Festival for five years, and is currently on the staff of the vocal department at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, the Royal College of Music and Drama, and West London University. He has played for many distinguished singers and specialises in French song. Marc has undertaken the proof-reading of the music in the Osterwald Liederbuch and has been a consistently supportive and indispensable presence throughout the entire project. The release of a new recording of songs by Jewish Polish composer Mieczyslaw Weinberg together with baritone Mark Glanville is expected early next year. Marc's new salon show which involves musicians and actors in a musical drama of Venice in the 1930s will go on tour from autumn of 2021. For more information please visit marcverter.com and www.salonmusical.co.uk

