



Biography - Kieran Carrel, Tenor

The German-British tenor Kieran Carrel is equally at home on the operatic stage, in concert, and in song, captivating audiences with his exceptional versatility. His musical journey began at a young age as a member of a boys' choir, laying the foundation for his vocal career. Bilingual from birth—his mother is German, his father English—Carrel's cultural identity and expressive artistry have been shaped by both traditions.

His breakthrough came in 2020 when he won second prize at the German National Singing Competition, opening the door to the world of opera. He has since become a member of the ensemble at the Deutsche Oper Berlin, where he has taken on leading roles in his fach early in his career: Tamino (*Die Zauberflöte*), Don Ottavio (*Don Giovanni*), Walther (*Tannhäuser*), Erik (*Der fliegende Holländer*), Froh (*Das Rheingold*), Narraboth (*Salome*), Alfred (*Die Fledermaus*), Count Almaviva (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*), and Lysander (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*). He appeared as Rinaldo in Haydn's *Armida* at the Bregenz Festival and recently made his debut as Tamino at the Cologne Opera. Upcoming engagements will take him to the Glyndebourne Festival and the Zurich Opera House, among others.

Equally vital to his artistic identity is his work in concert and song repertoire. Carrel has performed Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* at the Glyndebourne Festival, Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* with the WDR Symphony Orchestra Cologne and the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Evangelist in Bach's *St John Passion* with the Netherlands Chamber Orchestra, and Mendelssohn's *Lobgesang* with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra. In the current season, he will sing Britten's *War Requiem* at the Staatstheater Darmstadt under Daniel Cohen, Haydn's *The Seasons* at the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino under Marc Minkowski, and Haydn's *The Creation* with the Konzerthausorchester Berlin under Joana Mallwitz—this latter performance will also be recorded for Deutsche Grammophon. He will also appear in Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* with the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra and sing the Evangelist in the *St Matthew Passion* with the Noord Nederlands Orkest.

Carrel made his song recital debut in 2019 at Berlin's Pierre Boulez Saal and was a finalist in the same year at the Wigmore Hall International Song Competition. He has since been a regular guest at both venues. At Wigmore Hall, he has appeared in a Hugo Wolf Gala with Christoph Prégardien and James Baillieu, performed Haydn Canzonettas with Sir András Schiff, and sang Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music* with the Nash Ensemble. Recent highlights include *Schwanengesang* by Schubert alongside Kristian Bezuidenhout at the 2024 MA Festival in Bruges, Schumann lieder at the Philharmonie Luxembourg with Graham Johnson, and his debut at the Schubertiade Schwarzenberg. A long-standing collaboration with the Heidelberger Frühling Festival saw him return for the opening concert of the past season's edition.

He began his formal training with Christoph Prégardien in Cologne, continuing at the Royal Academy of Music in London with Neil Mackie—a student of Peter Pears. He also received

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significant artistic guidance from Thomas Hampson and Hartmut Höll as part of the Heidelberg Lied Academy.