



COUNTERTENOR

Meili Li

ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Europe-based countertenor Meili Li is known for his "hugely attractive voice" "unwavering, clean countertenor" "warm, strongly produced countertenor" (Bachtrack and Opera). He is the first Chinese countertenor to receive western conservatoire education and to have an international career.

Meili has a wide range of repertoire: from Renaissance lute songs to Romantic German Lieder, French Mélodie, English and contemporary art-songs; from Baroque operas, oratorios and cantatas, early Classical operas to 20th and 21st century operas. He has convincing interpretations of music in different genres, styles and languages.

PERFORMANCES

In recent years, he performed in Royal Opera House, Welsh National Opera, Concertgebouw, Birmingham Opera, Hungarian State Opera, London Handel Festival, Barbican Centre, Tête à Tête Opera, Municipal theatre of Fontainebleau. His roles include Oberon in A Midsummer Night's Dream, HSO; Spirito in L'Orfeo, ROH; Cherub (understudy) in Figaro Gets a Divorce, WNO; Astron in The Ice Break Tippett with CBSO; Nireno in Giulio Cesare, Concertgebouw; Marco Fabio in Lucio Papirio Dittatore Hasse, LHF; Title role in San Giovanni Battista Stradella; Fox/Coachman in The Adventure of Pinocchio Dove; Artemis in Phaedra Henze, Guildhall. He participated in the premiers of several new operas written for him including Narkissus and Reflektions, Opera Makers, ROH and The Last Seed, Tête à tête. He also took part in the premier of Monteverdi's master piece L'Orfeo in Royal Opera House.

Meili has worked with world-renowned musicians, directors and orchestras such as Sir John Elliot Gardiner, Laurence Cummings, Andrew Gourlay and CBSO, Christopher Moulds and early ensemble of ROH, Justin Brown and WNO orchestra, etc. He has performed in various countries including UK, Germany, China, France, Italy, Holland, Spain, Korea, Hungary, Indonesia. He is invited to have a concert tour in China in November 2016.

Meili has appeared in BBC Radio 3, Hunan TV, Jiangsu TV and Chinese state CCTV. His interviews are published in many different newspapers and magazines both in China and Europe.

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Meili studied countertenor with Professor Dengying Zhao from Central conservatoire of Music while pursuing his BA degree in film making and philosophy at Peking University. He then studied singing under Michael Chance at the Royal Academy of Music with the support of Kohn Foundation. In 2013 he received an MA in Vocal Studies with Distinction and a DipRAM award for his excellent performance in his final recital, being one of the few students in the history of the Royal Academy to receive full marks. He has completed his Artist Diploma with Distinction on the opera course at Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 2015, under the tuition of Yvonne Kenny, with the support of the Salter's Company, Leverhulme Trust, Independent Opera and Prof. Dr. Ninon Colneric. He is also a fellow of Independent Opera.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Meili won the Farinelli Prize in London Handel singing competition in 2016.