



Wednesday 7 July, 2pm

English Song Prize 2021

Eamonn Dougan and Marta Fontanals-Simmons adjudicators

Purcell *Sweeter than roses*

Tippett *Where the bee sucks* (from 'Songs for Ariel')

Dove *My Love is Mine*

Britten *Calypso*

Katie MacDonald mezzo-soprano

Michelle Santiago piano

Finzi *It was a lover and his lass*

arr. Bethany Reeves *The Dying Soldier*

Vaughan Williams *Silent Noon*

George Reynolds baritone

Bethany Reeves piano

Ian Venables *Flying Crooked, Op 28 No 1*

Florence Price *To my little Son*

Barber *O Boundless, Boundless Evening* (from 'Three Songs', Op 42)

Finzi *It was a lover and his lass*

Michael Lafferty-Smith baritone

Matthias de Smet piano

Michael Head *Money, O!*

Rodney Bennett *As I walked by myself*

Warlock *Captain Stratton's Fancy*

Grainger *The sprig of thyme*

Joseph Chalmers baritone

Bethany Reeves piano

Muriel Herbert *The Lake Isle of Innisfree*

George Butterworth *The Lads in Their Hundreds*

arr. Benjamin Britten *The Crocodile*

George Robarts baritone

Thomas Eeckhout piano

This performance was performed on Tuesday 29 June 2021 in the Lecture Recital Room and was recorded and produced live by Guildhall School's Recording & Audio Visual department.

Eamonn Dougan



Eamonn Dougan is an inspirational communicator with a wide-ranging repertoire and is a renowned vocal coach and baritone. Eamonn is Associate Conductor of The Sixteen, founding Director of Britten Sinfonia Voices, Music Director of the Thomas Tallis Society, and Chief Conductor for Jersey Chamber Orchestra.

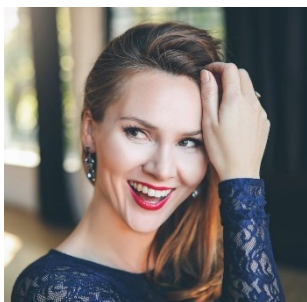
Forthcoming conducting engagements include performances as part of the Royal Academy of Music's Bach European series, return visits to the Cumnock Tryst Festival, Danish National Symphony Orchestra, VokalEnsemblet and KoncertKor, Orquesta y Coro de la Comunidad de Madrid (ORCAM), and Jersey Chamber Orchestra beckon. This alongside his continued work educating choral groups across the world.

Recent highlights have included the world premiere of James MacMillan *All the Hills and Vales Along* at the Cumnock Tryst Festival, he assisted Sir Mark Elder for the world premiere concert and recording of Puccini *Le Villi* with Opera Rara and the London Philharmonic Orchestra and conducted the off-stage chorus for Berlioz *L'Enfance du Christ* with The Hallé, Britten Sinfonia Voices and Genesis Sixteen for BBC Proms 2019 at the Royal Albert Hall. In 2019 he directed The Sixteen's highly acclaimed tour of Australia and Singapore, *Messiah* with Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León and Cappella Amsterdam, made his Spanish debut with the Bilbao Orkestra Sinfonikoa and Real Orquesta Sinfónica de Sevilla, and in Paris at the La Seine Musicale with renowned ensemble Accentus and in Copenhagen with Danish National Symphony Orchestra, VokalEnsemblet and KoncertKor. Eamonn directed De Profundis on their recent Hyperion release Juan Esquivel's *Missa Hortus Conclusus* to critical acclaim: "passionate singing to create an extremely enjoyable and atmospheric recording." (Gramophone)

Eamonn has a highly successful five-disc Polish Baroque series with The Sixteen. The first disc, music by Bartłomiej Pekieli, was met with widespread critical acclaim and was shortlisted for a Gramophone Award. Subsequent discs in the series include *The Blossoming Vine*, music by Gorczycki, and *Helper and Protector*. The fifth disc, music by Marcin Mielczewski, was released in 2017.

Eamonn is a Visiting Professor at Guildhall School of Music & Drama, where he teaches ensemble singing and directs the Guildhall Consort. Eamonn read music at New College, Oxford, before continuing his vocal and conducting studies at Guildhall School.

Marta Fontanals-Simmons



Praised for her “warm mezzo” (The Telegraph) and “velvet-voice” (Daily Telegraph), British-Spanish mezzo-soprano Marta Fontanals-Simmons recently made critically acclaimed house and role debuts at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as Siébel in David McVicar’s production of *Faust* and as Hel in the world premiere of Gavin Higgins *The Monstrous Child* at the Linbury Theatre.

Recent operatic highlights for Fontanals-Simmons include her house and role debut at English National Opera as Eurydice Woman in Daniel Kramer’s new production of Birtwistle’s *The Mask of Orpheus*, her house debut as Jennie Hildebrand in Weill *Street Scene* for Opéra de Monte-Carlo, Amando *Le Grand Macabre* with the NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchester, Zweite Dame *Die Zauberflöte* for Glyndebourne Festival Opera, Jennie Hildebrand *Street Scene* at the Teatro Real, Cherubino *Le nozze di Figaro* for Garsington Opera and at the Théâtre Champs Elysées, the title role *La Cenerentola* for Diva Opera, and Kate Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* for the Glyndebourne Tour and for Grange Park Opera.

On the concert platform, recent highlights include the European premiere of Alasdair Nicolson *Shadows on the Wall – Five Hauntings* at the Barbican, Berlioz *La Captive* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Verdi *Requiem* with the Philharmonia Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall, Vaughan Williams *Serenade to Music* with Sakari Oramo at the Last Night of the Proms, Mendelssohn *Elijah* with CBSO at Birmingham Symphony Hall, *L’Enfant et les Sortilèges* with Stéphane Denève and the Radio-Sinfonieorchester Stuttgart, Mozart *Requiem* with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Bach *Mass in B Minor* with Ryan Wigglesworth at the St Endellion Festival, Handel *Messiah* with Lawrence Cummings at the London Handel Festival, Stravinsky *Les Noces* at Queen Elizabeth Hall, and Haydn *Harmoniemesse* with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

In demand as an exciting new voice in contemporary music, Fontanals-Simmons has premiered the role of Ursula in the Royal Opera House / Glyndebourne co-production of *Nothing* by David Bruce, has collaborated, premiered and recorded a number of new song cycles, including that of Martin Suckling’s *The Tuning* which won the Dorico Award at the Scottish Awards for New Music in 2020, and also Emily Howard, Robert Laidlow, Patricia Alessandrini, Benjamin Ellin & the UK writing duo Murphy&Attridge. With orchestra, Fontanals-Simmons has made premiere recordings of the late Jonathan Harvey’s *Songs of Li Po*, Michael Hurd’s *The Phoenix & the Turtle* and Michael Stimpson’s *The Angry Garden*.

Fontanals-Simmons graduated with distinction from Guildhall School of Music & Drama, where she won the prestigious Gold Medal in 2015. She was a Jerwood Artist at Glyndebourne Festival for the 2015/16 season.