**ASHLEY RICHES - bass-baritone**

Ashley Riches studied English at King’s College, Cambridge where he sang in the Chapel Choir under Stephen Cleobury. From 2012-14 he was a member of the Jette Parker Young Artist Programme at the Royal Opera House, where he made his debut in a duet with Robert Alagna and represented the house at a gala celebrating Young Artist Programmes at the Bolshoi Theatre. He is currently a BBC New Generation Artist.

Highlights of this season include Creon in Stravinsky *Oedipus Rex* with Sir John Eliot Gardiner and the Berlin Philharmonic, Purcell *The Fairy Queen* with Richard Egarr and the Academy of Ancient Music, a European tour of Bach *Christmas Oratorio* with Masaki Suzuki and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Ferryman in Britten *Curlew River* with the Britten Sinfonia at the new Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg, the Pirate King in Mike Leigh’s production of *The Pirates of Penzance* at English National Opera and the title role in Mozart *Don Giovanni* for Opera Holland Park, along with song recitals and recordings with Simon Lepper, Sholto Kynoch, Anna Tilbrook and Joseph Middleton.

His song discography includes Poulenc *Chansons Gaillardes* with Graham Johnson (Hyperion), the songs of Arthur Sullivan with David Owen Norris (Chandos) and a world premier recording of the Shakespeare *Sonnets of Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco* with Emma Abbate(Resonus). He has also recorded Handel *L’Allegro, il Pensieroso ed il Moderato* with the Gabrieli Consort, Paul McCreesh (Gabrieli)Bach *St Matthew Passion* (Bass arias, Pilate) with the Monteverdi Choir (Soli Deo Gloria) and Bach *St John Passion* (Jesus) with Crouch End Festival Chorus, the first recording in English for over fifty years.