KünstlerSekretariat am Gasteig oHG

Elisabeth Ehlers - Lothar Schacke - Verena Vetter

Montgelasstraße 2
81679 München

Tel.: +49 (0)89 4448879-0
Fax: +49 (0)89 4489522
E-Mail: team@ks-gasteig.de

Biography - Kieran Carrel, Tenor

Berlin-based German-British tenor Kieran Carrel first gained international recognition in 2020, when he was awarded Second Prize at the prestigious Bundeswettbewerb Gesang. He began laying the foundations for his singing career at an early age as a member of the Gütersloh Boys' Choir. The son of a German mother and an English father, he grew up bilingual and draws on a deeply rooted cultural identity that informs his musical expression both on stage and in the concert hall. He began his vocal studies with Christoph Prégardien in Cologne and continued at the Royal Academy of Music in London with Neil Mackie. He also received important artistic inspiration from Thomas Hampson and Hartmut Höll at the Heidelberg Lied Academy.

As a permanent ensemble member of the Deutsche Oper Berlin, Carrel is building an extensive repertoire of the leading tenor roles with remarkable versatility. His repertoire includes 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*), Lysander (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), and the Marquis of Chateauneuf (*Zar und Zimmermann*). Guest engagements have taken him to leading opera houses and concert halls as well as renowned festivals, including the Bregenz Festival, Glyndebourne Festival, Bayreuth Festival, Cologne Opera, Leipzig Opera, Staatstheater Darmstadt, Wigmore Hall, Pierre Boulez Saal Berlin, Heidelberger Frühling, and Schubertiade Schwarzenberg.

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.

Kieran Carrel is equally passionate about concert and song repertoire. He regularly collaborates with leading orchestras and ensembles, including the WDR Symphony Orchestra, Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin, Konzerthausorchester Berlin, Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, Netherlands Chamber Orchestra, and Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra. His musical partners have included Marc Minkowski, Joana Mallwitz, Oksana Lyniv, Daniel Cohen, Christoph Prégardien, András Schiff, Julius Drake, and Graham Johnson.

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At his home opera house, Deutsche Oper Berlin, he will take on several major roles, including Tamino (*Die Zauberflöte*), his role debut as Belmonte (*Die Entführung aus dem Serail*), the Evangelist in a staged production of Bach's *St Matthew Passion* under Alessandro De Marchi, and Narraboth in Strauss's *Salome.* He will also return to Cologne Opera as Tamino. Following his Bayreuth debut in 2026, he was immediately re-invited for the 2027 Festival, where he will appear as Walther von der Vogelweide in Tobias Kratzer's acclaimed production of *Tannhäuser* under the musical direction of Thomas Guggeis.

Highlights of the 2026/27 concert season include a major European tour with Ensemble Pygmalion under Raphaël Pichon in Mozart's *Mass in C minor,* with performances in Bordeaux, Versailles, Vienna, London, Paris, and Amsterdam; Haydn's *The Creation* with the period-instrument ensemble Barucco and the Wiener Singakademie under Heinz Ferlesch at the Vienna Konzerthaus; Bach's *Mass in B minor* at the Concertgebouw Amsterdam; and Beethoven's Missa solemnis with the Danish National Symphony Orchestra under Petr Popelka in Copenhagen. He also appears with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra under Raphaël Pichon, performs Britten's *Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings* with the Dresden Philharmonic under Sir Donald Runnicles, and sings in Stravinsky's *Oedipus Rex* under Alan Gilbert with the NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchestra at Hamburg's Elbphilharmonie and the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris. Kieran concludes the concert season in Utrecht with Mendelssohn's *Elijah* under Karina Canellakis with the Groot Omroepkoor and Radio Filharmonisch Orkest.

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