

Claire Groom – Short Biography

Claire Groom graduated with distinction from the RNCM in 2005. She studies with Barbara Robotham.

Prizes awarded include the Joyce and Michael Kennedy Award for the Singing of Strauss, Bruce Millar/Gulliver Prize for young opera singers, Eva Turner Award, Amanda Rookcroft Award, Robin Kaye Memorial Prize and Diva Opera Young Artist Award.

In 2005 Claire was awarded a coveted BBC Fame Academy bursary worth £37,500 to fund her training for the next 3 years.

As a soloist she has performed a wide repertoire ranging from Vivaldi to Jenkins in many venues across the country and made her Royal Albert Hall debut in 2004 in Handel's *Messiah* conducted by Sir David Willcocks. She returned to sing Mozart's *Requiem* in 2006 and was invited to perform the *Messiah* once again with Sir David Willcocks in the Forbidden Concert Hall – Beijing.

She has toured Germany singing Strauss' *Vier Letzte Lieder*, and this year will perform them with the Sheffield Philharmonic.

In her final year at the RNCM, Claire performed the role of Magda in Puccini's *La Rondine* at the RNCM to wide critical acclaim. She has since toured Europe performing the roles of Adina (*L'Elisir D'amore*) and Lauretta (*Gianni Schicchi*) for Diva Opera and Violetta (*La Traviata*) at the Mananan International Opera Festival. In 2006 she sang alongside Jose Carreras as Rosalina in the party scene from *Die Fledermaus*. This year she will sing the role of Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*) on the same European tour.

Other roles include Karen (*A Better Place*, RNCM) and covers of Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*, RNCM), Rosalinda (*Die Fledermaus*, Clonter Opera) Fiorilla (*Il Turco in Italia*, Buxton Festival) and Silvia (*Ascanio in Alba*, Buxton Festival). Staged opera scenes have included Lucia (*Lucia di Lammermoor*), Margherite (*Faust*), Norina (*Don Pasquale*) and Minnie (*La Fanciulla del West*).

Claire has also worked with composers Andriessen (*De Materie*), Pintscher (*Lieder und Schneebilder* - BBC Proms/Radio 3), Sir Harrison Birtwistle (*Nine Settings of Lorine Niedecker*), Tovey (*Requiem for a Charred Skull* - UK premiere) and Gruber (*Frankenstein!!* - Wigmore Hall).

For more information please visit www.clairegroom.com