

COLERIDGE TAYLOR (WILLS) MORGAN – BIO & CV

Page 1 of 3

Based in London UK | Tel: +44 (0)7505 554 934 | Mail: morganstreet@hotmail.com |
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WILLS MORGAN is a classically trained singer and musician with countless years of both operatic work and West End touring performances under his belt.

Born in Huddersfield and educated in Slough, Wills possesses a wealth of musicality and a lust for life. He studied at the Royal College of Music in London and The Cleveland Institute of Music in Ohio where he received a Master of Music degree. Beginning his operatic career in the chorus of the English National Opera, he was soon appearing at the Royal Opera, Glyndebourne Festival Opera, Kent Opera and the Cleveland Opera where he was an Associate Artist. He has performed at the BBC Proms, the Royal Festival Hall and with Sir Simon Rattle and the London Symphony Orchestra at the Barbican.

Wills Morgan has been a headline artist at major festivals on both sides of the Atlantic, from the centenary performance of **Hiawatha's Wedding Feast** at Harvard University and both **Cosi fan Tutte** and **Madame Butterfly** at the Holders Season in Barbados, to **The Beginnings of Polyphony** at the Early Music Festival in Barcelona and Mike Westbrook's **Platterback** at the Crest Festival in southern France, Prague and the Queen Elizabeth Hall on London's South Bank. He has been a creator of memorable black characters, notably 'Montel', the notorious adult baby featured in the multi award-winning burlesque **Jerry Springer The Opera**.

Wills is one of Britain's finest vocal improvisers, specialising in popular song covers. He was a founder-member of the pioneering multi-stylistic choir of soloists known as **The Shout**. He was also a founder-member of **The Artsong Collective**, a flexible chamber ensemble devoted to 20th-century English language art song.

Wills has been a creator of and collaborator on numerous live-music events, which he often exuberantly hosts, and he has a fondness for street percussion. He also writes about music.

TRAINING

Master of Music in Voice (1991) and Artist Diploma (1988)

The Cleveland Institute of Music, 11021 East Boulevard Cleveland Ohio 44106 Student of George Vassos and Richard Rodda (CWRU Joint Programme)

Dip RCM in Voice (1983) and Postgraduate Certificate in Voice (1985)

The Royal College of Music, South Kensington, London SW7 2BS
Student of Frederick Sharp and Edward Brooks

OPERA

Kombat Opera Presents: Avalon and BBC Wales (2006)

Wills THE APPLICANTS d. Dominic Brigstoke
Wills Gay SPOUSE CHANGE d. Dominic Brigstoke
John Simpson QUESTION TIME OUT d. Dominic Brigstoke
PC Wills DRINKING IN NOTTINGHAM d. Tim Kirkby Wordbringer
CHILDREN OF THE STONES d. Terry Jones

JSTO Limited: Guest Star Artist (2000-2006)

Montel/Jesus JERRY SPRINGER THE OPERA d. Stewart Lee c. Martin Lowe
Original Cast Recording 2003, Battersea Arts Centre 2001, Edinburgh Assembly Rooms 2002,
London Lyttleton Theatre, Seven Dials Cambridge Theatre and a 2006 tour of England Scotland and Wales.

Wedmore Opera: Guest Principal Artist (2000-2004)

Official Debut: Jago Custos JAGO d. Marilyn Johnstone c. Carolyn Doorbar in 2000
Caravadossi TOSCA d. Marilyn Johnstone c. Carolyn Doorbar in 2002

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Westbrook and Company: Ensemble Member (2000)

Conscript PLATTERBACK, a cabaret for five acting musicians by Mike and Kate Westbrook

Kentish Opera: Guest Principal Artist (1998-2000)

Don Alvaro FORCE OF DESTINY d. Sally Langford c. James Morgan in 1998
Nadir PEARL FISHERS d. Sally Langford c. Stephen Harris in 1999

Music Theatre Group Amsterdam: Guest Principal Artist (1998)

Pete THE SOFA d. Mark Curtis c. Paul McGrath

Cambridge University Opera Society: Debut as Director (1998)

Tom THE RAKE'S PROGRESS d. Sarah Chew c. Stephen Lawrence
Orfeo/Apollo/Director of the Opera ORFEO c. Stephen Lawrence

New Kent Opera Ensemble (1994-1998)

Understudy to Howard Haskin, Abbot PRODIGAL SON d. Tim Carroll c. Tim Dean
Understudy to Gwion Thomas Orfeo ORFEO d. Tim Carroll c. John Toll

Sussex Opera: Guest Principal Artist (1996 and 1997)

Official debut Balakin THE ENCHANTRESS d. John Lloyd Davies c. David Angus in 1997
Robespierre DANTON'S DEATH d. John Lloyd Davies c. David Angus in 1996

HOLDERS Festival Season, Barbados (1996)

Ferrando COSI FAN TUTTE and Goro MADAME BUTTERFLY d. Philip Lloyd Evans c. Paul McGrath

Now You See It Festival, Queen Elizabeth Hall debut (1994)

Charles 'Buddy' Bolden COMING THROUGH SLAUGHTER d. Michael Morris c. Odaline de la Martinez

The Opera Company: Guest Principal Artist (1993)

Armed Man MAGIC FLUTE d. Clare Venables c. Tim Dean in 1993

British Youth Opera: Principal Artist (1993)

Official debut: Monostatos MAGIC FLUTE d. Jamie Hayes c. Jane Glover

Toledo Opera, Guest Principal Artist (1989-1990)

Official house debut: as Armed Man MAGIC FLUTE d. Andrew Foldi c. James Meena
Also Arturo Bucklaw LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR, Mingo PORGY AND BESS and Tybalt ROMEO ET JULIETTE

English National Opera, Chorus Member (1985-1987)

First Black British person to sign an ensemble contract for a British opera company .
Official house debut: as Tchapliksky QUEEN OF SPADES d. Keith Warner in 1987
Officer DIE SOLDATEN (SOLDIERS) d. David Freeman c. Elgar Howarth in 1996
Southern Sycopated Singer FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD d. Stephen Langridge in 2004
Page AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS d. Davd Ritch in 1986
Understudy to David Rendall, THE CLOAK (TRITTICO) d. Patrick Mason in 1998
Student of Josephine Veasey, resident vocal coach

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

Acklam Village Market 2017-2019

Two complete seasons as the host and substitute performers at the award-winning live music venue featuring the best in freshly cooked street fare. Host of Portobello Live in the Stream and introducer of Glen Matlock and John Cooper Clarke to the 2019 Festival public.

The Island Experiment 2009-2017

Performer and Co-Host of the most important open-mike night in West London.

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Based in Kensal, and close to homes of stars like Rita Ora, Chrissie Hynde, Lily Allen, Paloma Faith, Ed Harcourt, Don Letts, Mick Jones and more. Members of the Bad Seeds, Osibisa, Culture Club and the Members have been special guests.

DISCOGRAPHY

Missa Sollicita, Motets MUSICA FABULA d. JAN WALTERS GAU 180

My Heart is like a Singing Bird: Coleridge-Taylor songs, THE ARTSONG COLLECTIVE MZCD 1001

To All A Future World May Hold: Alan Bush song cycles THE ARTSONG COLLECTIVE MZCD 1002

Songs For Liquid Days: Three Songs: Vessels CROUCH END FESTIVAL CHORUS d DAVID

TEMPLE Silva Classics 6023