

William Shelton, Counter-tenor



The Franco-British countertenor William Shelton, a renowned interpreter of Bach, will perform in 2023-2024 in France and Europe under the baton of Raphaël Pichon (Pygmalion), Philippe Herreweghe (Collegium Vocale Gent), Reinoud Van Mechelen (A Nocte Temporis), Olivier Spilmont (Alia Mens), Stephan Macleod (Gli Angeli), Alexis Kossenko (Les Ambassadeurs), Johanna Soller (Münchener Bach-Orchester), and Elina Albach (Continuum).

Other programmes this season will take him on the road alongside Jordi Savall (La Capella Reial de Catalunya), Cyrille Mercier (Orchestre national Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes), Thomas Hengelbrock (Balthasar Neumann Ensemble), Frank Markowitsch (Freiburger Bachchor), Vincent Dumestre (Le Poème Harmonique), Bernhard Reichel (Musica Getutscht) and Lionel Meunier (Vox Luminis).

In a completely different repertoire, he will again sing the role of the President in *Carmen Case* at the Théâtre du Luxembourg and at the Opéra de Bordeaux, as well as Feldman's *Rothko Chapel*, with Les Cris de Paris.

For several years now, William Shelton has been a regular guest soloist with French ensembles such as Pygmalion, Les Ambassadeurs, Alia Mens, L'Escadron volant de la Reine, le Caravansérail, but also abroad : Vox Luminis, Collegium Vocale Gent, Balthasar Neumann Ensemble & Chor, La Cetra Barockorchester Basel, La Capella Reial de Catalunya, Musica Getutscht, A Nocte Temporis, and Gli Angeli.

On stage, he created the role of the President in the show *Carmen Case*, by the composer Diana Soh and based on Bizet's opera, sang *Messaggiera* (*Euridice* by Caccini) with Scherzi Musicali in Brussels and Timisoara (Romania), *Arsamene* (Händel's *Serse*) with Opera Fuoco in China (Beijing, Shen-Zhen and Nanjing) and *Apollo* (Locke's *Psyche*) with Ensemble Correspondances (Opéra de Versailles, Caen and Théâtre d'Hardelot).

A keen chamber musician, in 2023 he won the Duo Prize at the Concours international de la mélodie française de Toulouse with pianist Louis Dechambre; in 2020 he also won the Prix de l'Opéra Grand Avignon at the Gordes mélodies competition, with pianist Bastien Dollinger; They were subsequently invited to give recitals at Avignon Opera as part of the *Apér'Opéra* series, and as part of the "Jeunes Talents" programme at the Petit Palais in Paris. This season, in the company of the theorist Léo Brunet and the gambist Salomé Gasselin, he will perform "Une Vénitienne à Paris", a program based on the remarkable life of the composer Antonia Bembo, before recording it for Oktav Records.

He has been an Artist in residence at the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel since 2021 and has had the opportunity to receive guidance from Sophie Koch, José Van Dam, and Stéphane Degout; William Shelton was previously a member of the first cast of young singers at the Académie Philippe Jaroussky in 2017.

He is the winner of several international competitions: "Young Artist Award" at the Cesti Baroque Opera Competition in Innsbruck, 2nd Prize at the Froville Baroque Singing Competition, 1st Prize at the Boulder Bach Festival's "World Bach Competition", Audience Prize and "Jeunes Talents" Prize at the Corneille Competition in Rouen (Andreas Scholl as chairman).

William Shelton is represented by RSB Artists since 2022.

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Contacts

RSB Artists

Artists management / Agence artistique

Réda SIDI-BOUMEDINE / Director and Artists manager / rsb@rsbartists.com / +33 6 747 617 97

Victoire LE BRAS / Production manager and Artists manager / vlb@rsbartists.com / +33 6 30 79 60 88

Nicolas JOUVE / Artistic delegate / nj@rsbartists.com / +33 6 84 84 12 45

www.rsbartists.com