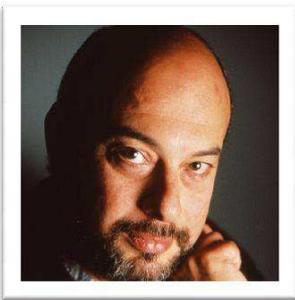


PETER SIDHOM Baritone

'I've known and loved Elgar's "The Dream of Gerontius" ever since I was a sixth-former at the Salesian College in Battersea, southwest London, and our inspirational music teacher, the late Fr Tom Carroll, mounted full-scale Eastertide performances of "Messiah", "Elijah" and "Gerontius" in consecutive years. I was the bass soloist each year, starting with Messiah at the age of 15! Of course, recently-broken voices being what they are, one was also expected to beef up the choir - so I sang the whole oratorio each time, stepping out for the solos as required! As a result, I can genuinely say I know every note of each of those works; and if you see me quietly singing along with the big choral set pieces tonight, you'll know I've been transported back nearly 40 years...'

from the programme notes for a series of concerts with the Philharmonia Orchestra in 2007



Peter Sidhom was born in Egypt of a Maltese-Italian mother and a Coptic Egyptian father, and settled in England at the age of ten. After reading Modern Languages at London University, he studied singing with Hervey Alan and Josephine Veasey.

Peter Sidhom has appeared at many of the world's leading international opera houses including the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, Glyndebourne Festival, Opera Bastille Paris, San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, La Monnaie Brussels, Teatro Comunale Florence, Theatre du Capitole Toulouse, Staatstheater Stuttgart, Teatro Real de Madrid and Teatro La Fenice. He has also sung leading roles with all the British companies including ENO, Scottish Opera, WNO and Opera North, and on BBC-TV he sang **Count Almaviva** *The Marriage of Figaro* in a series of live transmissions for BBC Music Live in 2000.

Recent appearances have included **Alberich** *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, **Scarpia** *Tosca* and **Paolo Simon Boccanegra** for the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; **Alberich** *Der Ring des Nibelungen* in Paris, Seville and Leipzig; **Alberich** *Das Rheingold* in Monte Carlo and Hong Kong; **Falstaff** and **Pizarro** *Fidelio* for Scottish Opera; **The Traveller** *Death in Venice* in Lyon, Bregenz and Aldeburgh; **Klingsor** *Parsifal* in Nice; **Faninal** *Der Rosenkavalier* in Paris, San Francisco and Chicago; and **Balstrode** *Peter Grimes* in Paris, Geneva, Antwerp, Ghent, Monte Carlo and Oviedo. He remains especially associated with the role of **Scarpia**, having performed it over 175 times, most recently in St Etienne.

Equally at home on the concert platform, he has appeared in all the major UK concert halls and appears frequently at the BBC Proms. Conductors he has worked with include Richard Armstrong, David Atherton, Martyn Brabbins, Paul Daniel, Andrew Davis, Christoph von Dohnányi, Mark Elder, Bernard Haitink, Richard Hickox, Philippe Jordan, Oliver Knussen, Sir Charles Mackerras, Antonio Pappano, Carlo Rizzi and Edo de Waart.

His plans include **Balstrode** *Peter Grimes* in Cologne and *Belshazzar's Feast* in Singapore.

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