

1a) NAME: Jonathan Summers

b) CATEGORY: Opera singer / baritone

c) POSITION: Freelance

2a) PERSONAL DETAILS:

date of birth / place / country

2nd October, 1946; Melbourne; Australia

b) MARITAL STATUS:

date of marriage / name of spouse / number of children

29th March 1969, Melbourne Australia; Lesley; 3 children

3) PREVIOUS OCCUPATIONS:

dates / occupation

1965-1974 Freelance singer/concert artist

1970-1974 Technical operator/recording engineer Australian Broadcasting Commission, Melbourne

4) EDUCATION:

dates / institution / city / teacher

Secondary : Melbourne; Macleod High School

Tertiary : Melbourne; Prahran Technical College (Art School)

1964-1974 Melbourne; Bettine McCaughan, voice teacher

1972-1973 Melbourne; National Theatre Opera School

1974-1980 London; Otakar Kraus, voice teacher

5) PROFESSIONAL DEBUT:

date / opera company / role / opera / cast

Nov 1975; Kent Opera; title role in Verdi's Rigoletto; Congress Theater, Eastbourne, UK; producer: Jonathan Miller; conductor: Roger Norrington; David Hillman (Duke), Meryl Drower (Gilda), Sarah Walker (Maddalena), Malcolm King (Sparafucile)

6) EARLY CAREER WITH BRIEF RESUME:

dates / opera house or company / role / opera

Feb 1976; University College London Opera; title role in Macbeth (orig. 1847 version); producer: John Moody; conductor: George Badachoni

Sep 1976; Glyndebourne Touring Opera; title role in Falstaff; producer: Jean-Pierre Ponnelle; conductor: Kenneth Montgomery

Oct 1976; joined the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London, as a company principal

Nov 1976; English National Opera (debut); Tonio; I Pagliacci conductor: David Loyd-Jones

Jan 1977; Royal Opera House (debut); Killian; Der Freischutz producer: Götz Friedrich; conductor: Colin Davis

Remained with the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as a company member until 1986, and roles included:

NEW PRODUCTIONS AT ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

Grand Pretre, Samson et Dalila; Hercule, Alceste; Tierbandige, Lulu; Herrufer, Lohengrin; Paolo, Simone Boccanegra; Sonora, La fanciulla del West; Albert, Werther; High Priest, Idomeneo; Tchelkalov, Boris

Goudonov; Demetrius, A Midsummer Night's Dream; Faninal, Der Rosenkavalier; Roucher, Andrea Chenier

REVIVALS AT ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

Marcello, La Boheme; Figaro, Il barbiere di Siviglia & Le Nozze di Figaro, Papageno, Die Zaubeflöte; Balstrode, Peter Grimes; Sharpless, Madama Butterfly; Malatesta, Don Pasquale; Falke, Die Fledermaus; Silvio, I Pagliacci; Iago, Otello; Nabucco

7) MAJOR DEBUTS:

date / opera house or company / role / opera / conductor / cast

Jun 1981; The Australian Opera, Sydney Opera House; Pere Germon; La Traviata; with Richard Bonyng and Joan Sutherland.

Jan 1982; Paris Opera, Palais Garnier; Herrufer; Lohengrin; with Dohnanyi; Hoffmann, Tomova-Sintov, Nimsgern, Randova, Loyd

Mar 1986; Hamburg State Opera; Rodrigo; Don Carlos; with Patane; Aragall, Varady, Ramey

Nov 1987; Teatro Communale, Florence (debut); Marcello; La Boheme; with Bartoletti; Freni, Merrit

Jan 1988; Bayarischer Staats Oper, Munich; Figaro; Le Nozze di Figaro; with Sawalisch; Cockburn, Brendel, Blazi

Jan 1988; Metropolitan Opera, New York; Marcello; La Boheme; with Klieber; Freni, Pavarotti, Daniels, Howell, Hampson

Sep 1988; La Scala Milan (on tour in Japan); Marcello; La Boheme; with Klieber; Freni, Dvorsky, Daniels, Surijan

Jun 1989; Frankfurt; Rigoletto; Rigoletto; with Farina, Dawson

Jul 1990; Glyndebourne Festival; Ford; Falstaff; with Mackerras; Desderi, Kenny, Howells, Palmer, Van Allen, Egerton, Jenkins, Torcevski

Nov 1990; Lyric Opera, Chicago; Enrico; Lucia di Lammermoor with Renzetti; Anderson and Kraus

8) ROLES IN THE UK:

date / opera house or company / role / opera / conductor / cast

ROH = Royal Opera House, Covent Garden

ENO = English National Opera

SO = Scottish Opera

ON = Opera North

WNO = Welsh National Opera

Oct 1984; ON; Nabucco; Nabucco; with Howarth; Vaughan

Mar 1985; ON; Pere Germon; La Traviata; with Brydon; Field, Martin

Nov 1986; ROH; Papageno; with Schneider; Jerusalem, Mattila, Rootering, McIntyre, Drower, Haage

Oct 1985; ENO; Rodrigo; Don Carlos; with Elder; Barstow, Trelevan, Finnie, Van Allan.

Apr 1987; ENO; Boccanegra; Simon Boccanegra; with Elder; Cairns, Davis, Opie, Bayley, Howell

Sep 1987; ROH; Ford; Falstaff; with Patane; Cotrubas, Wixell

Apr 1988; SO; The Traveller; Death in Venice; with Bernas; Langridge

Nov 1988; ROH; Sharpless; Madama Butterfly; with Brydon; Malfitano, Davis

Feb 1989; SO; Don Giovanni; Don Giovanni; with Mauceri; Opalach, Eaglen, Tennfjord, Winslade, Bouleyn, Howarth, Marsh

Apr 1989; ENO; Onegin; Onegin; with Elder; McLaughlin, Robinson, Payne, Davis, Van Allan

Sep 1989; ENO; Ankerstrom; A Masked Ball; with Elder; Cairns, Davis, Finnie, Garrett, Bayley, Richardson, Booth-Jones

Apr 1990; ENO; Macbeth; Macbeth; with Elder; Ciesinski, Connell

Jun 1990; ROH; Marcello; La Boheme; with Papano

Feb 1991; ROH; Grand Pretre; Samson et Dalila; with Delacote; Baltsa, Carreras

Apr 1991; ENO; Balstrode; Peter Grimes; with Elder; Langridge, Collins

Apr 1992; ENO; Rodrigo; Don Carlos; with Elder; Plowright, Bahram, Finnie, Howell, Van Allan

Jun 1992; ROH; Grand Pretre; Samson et Dalila; with Ermler; Borodina, Domingo

Sep 1992; ENO; Don Carlos; The Force of Destiny; with Elder; Barstow, Barham, Connell, Opie, Van Allan
 Feb 1993; ENO; Rigoletto; Rigoletto; with Elder; Mannion/Bullock, Davies, Rigby, Van Allan
 Mar 1994; ENO; Zurga; The Pearl Fishers; with Hudson, Webster
 May 1994; ROH; De Siriex; Fedora; with Downes; Freni, Carreras
 May 1995; ENO; Don Carlos; The Force of Destiny; Rendall, Cairns, Van Allan
 Sep 1995; WNO; Nabucco; Nabucco; with Rizzi; Cairns, White, Fulgoni, Hughes-Jones
 Feb 1996; ENO; Kurvenal; Tristan & Isolde; with Elder; Connell, Gray, Parry, Howell
 May 1996; SO; Pere Germont; La Traviata; with Armstrong, Primrose,
 Feb 1997; ENO; Figaro; Figaro's Wedding; with Kok; Caine, Connell, Mason, Jones, Poulton, Graham-Hall, Watson, Van Allan
 Sep 1997; ON; Amonasro; Aida; with Carrera; Barstow, Burgess, Barham, Bayley, White
 Nov 1997; ROH; Iago; Otello; with Delacote;
 Jun 1998; WNO; Pere Germont; La Traviata; with Rizzi, O'Sullivan, Ventre/Hudson, Knight, Rhys-Davies, Hamer, Loyd-Holtam
 Jul 1998; ROH; Savonlinna Festival; Balstrode; Peter Grimes; with Howarth; Rolfe-Johnson, Cullis, Earle, Garrett, Dazeley, Dobson, Leggate, Powell, Page, Williams, Knight,
 Feb 1999; ENO; Amfortas; Parsifal; with Elder; Howell, Harries, Begley, Connell
 Jun 1999; WNO; Kurvenal; Tristan & Isolde; with Rizzi; Loyd-Davis, Lawton, Owens, Dickson, Berkeley-Steele
 Nov 1999; ENO; Balstrode; Peter Grimes; with Daniel; Brubaker, Tierney,
 May 2000; ON Barnaba; La Gioconda; with Dohnanyi; Rutter, Maxwell-Davis, Bayley, Knight
 Feb/Mar 2001; WNO; Pere Germont; La Traviata; with Walker, O'Sullivan, Elias, McCullough, Rhys-Davies, Wade, Loyd-Holtam
 Jun 2001; ENO; Aldeburgh Festival; Balstrode; Peter Grimes; with Daniel; Brubaker,
 Feb/Mar 2003; WNO; Alfio; Cavalleria Rusticana; with Sokhiev; Lytting, O'Neill, Gorton, Sotgiu
 Feb/Mar 2003; WNO; Tonio; Pagliacci; with Sokhiev, Focile, O'Neill, Loyd-Holtam, Melrose
 May/Jun 2003; ENO; Kurvenal; Tristan & Isolde; with Bernet; Bullock, Rendall, Irwin, Best, Meiron, Elliott, Napier-Burrows
 Apr-Jun 2004; ON 8 Little Greats Season; Maltesta; Francesca da Rimini (Rachmaninov); with Andre; Pavlovski, Lloyd-Roberts. Michele; Il Tabarro; with Andre; Pavlovski, Owens/Croft, Capalbo, Sharratt, Mackie. Tonio; I Pagliacci; with Parry; Dodd, Cullagh, Paton, Stone
 Feb/Mar/Apr 2005; WNO; Pere Germont; La Traviata; with Rizzi, Focile/Mykytenko, Wedd, Baldwin, Rhys-Davies, Wade, Soar, Loyd-Holtam, Meinir, Clifton-Thompson, King, Newton Fitzgerald
 May/Jun/Jul 2005; WNO; Rigoletto; with Klauza, Trifonova, W Evans, Kirk, Bradbury, Moore, Hamer, May, Paterson, Meinir, Andrew, Newton-Fitzgerald, Bradshaw
 Aug 2005; Edinburgh Festival/SO; Klinghoffer; The Death of Klinghoffer; with Gardner, Wyn Rogers, Schroeder, Stafford-Allen, Sikora, Abrahams, Boutros, Gorton, Rosés, Bleiker, Booth, McLellan

9) ROLES REST OF THE WORLD:

date / opera house or company / role / opera / conductor / cast

Aug 1983; The Australian Opera, Sydney; Count di Luna; Il Trovatore; with Bonyngé; Sutherland, Collins, Elms, Shanks
 Aug 1984; The Australian Opera, Sydney; "The Four Villains"; Les Contes d'Hoffmann; with Bonyngé; Sutherland, Hoffmann, Cullen
 Aug 1985; The Australian Opera, Sydney; Renato; Un Ballo in Maschera; with Agler; Vaness, Collins, Elms,
 Aug 1987; Victoria State Opera, Melbourne; Count; Nozze di Figaro; Robinson; Dixon, Howell, Douglas
 May 1988; Avignon; Renato; Un Ballo in Maschera; with Giovaninetti; Castro-Alberty, Vilma, Chevalier, Mettre, Demoor, Abello
 Aug 1988; Victoria State Opera, Melbourne; Gerard; Andrea Chenier; with Divall; Morgu, Hann
 Dec 1988; Teatro Comunale, Florence; Sharpless; Madama Butterfly; with Bartoletti; Malfitano, Malagnini
 Jun 1989; Frankfurt; Rigoletto; Rigoletto; with Dawson, Farina
 Dec 1989; Theatre du Capitole, Toulouse; Marcello; La Bohème;

Jan 1990; La Fenice, Venice; Rodolfo; La Boheme (Leoncavallo); Latham-Koenig, Senn, Pratico, Malagnini, Mazzaria,
Feb 1990; Hong Kong Festival; Pere Germon; La Traviata; with Mu Hai Tang, Miricioiu, Pita
May 1990; Bavarian Staats Oper, Munich; Figaro; La Nozze di Figaro
Aug 1991; The Australian Opera, Sydney; Iago; Otello; with Cillario, Richardson, Hoffmann, Begg, Tomlinson
Oct 1991; Theatre du Capitole, Toulouse; Ford; Falstaff; with Podic, Fonderay, Masterson, Powell, Pancella, Casinelli, Runey, Maganotti, Torcevski
Dec 1992; Lyric Opera of Chicago; Marcello; La Boheme; with Bartoletti; Sabbattini, Mazzaria, Lawrence, McGuire, D'Arcangelo
Apr 1993; The Australian Opera, Melbourne; Ankerstrom; Un Ballo in Maschera; with Kamirski; Mitchell, Collins, Begg, Illing
Jun 1993; Bergen Festival; Rigoletto; Rigoletto; with Davis; Bullock, Davies
Aug 1993; The Australian Opera, Sydney; Ankerstrom; Un Ballo in Maschera; with Cillario; Connell, Collins, Begg, Illing
Aug 1994; The Australian Opera, Sydney; Pere Germon; La Traviata; with Cillario; Riedel, Janez-Lopez
Oct 1994; Lyric Opera of Chicago; De Siriex; Fedora; with Bartoletti Freni, Domingo
Jan 1995; Theatre du Capitole, Toulouse; Ford; Falstaff; with Bon Compagni; Lafont, Barboux, Stanisci, Olmeda, Powell, Casinelli, Runey, Maganotti, George
Feb 1995; Theatre Municipale, Lausanne; Ford; Falstaff; with Lopez-Cobos; Foderay, Madra, Stanisci, Olmeda, Powell, Casinelli, Runey, Maganotti, George
Mar 1995; Theatre du Capitole, Toulouse; Marcello; La Boheme; with Renzetti; Alagna, Vaduva, Mazzucata, Surijan, Sidom
Jul 1995; The Australian Opera, Sydney; Michele; Il Tabarro "Trittico"; with Cillario; Primrose, Austin
Apr 1996; The Australian Opera, Sydney; Nabucco; Nabucco; with Cillario; Connell, Martin
Oct 1996; The Australian Opera, Sydney; Falstaff; Falstaff; with Cillario; Carden, Lewis, Hamilton, Dawes, Baumann, Lincoln, Gunn, Waugh, Farrugia.
Apr 1997; The Australian Opera, Melbourne; Falstaff; Falstaff; with Cillario; Carden, McNichol, Collins-White, Dawes, Baumann, Elek, Gunn, Bermingham,
Feb 1998; Spear Festival, Cape Town; Scarpia; Tosca, with Wyn-Griffiths; Johnson, Maisuradse, Mvinjelwa, Eagar, Desandos
May 1998; New Israeli Opera, Tel Aviv; Pere Germon; La Traviata; with Chaslin; Shamir/Burato, Ombuena/Troxell, Babajanov, Halevi, Ettinger, Sebba, Freiberg, Bechar
Sep 1998; Opera Australia; Sydney; Rigoletto; Rigoletto; with Gill; Coles, Tomlinson, MacFarlane
Nov 1998; Staats Oper, Cologne; Sparpia; Tosca ; with ??,
Oct 1999; Opera Australia; Sydney; Wozzeck; Wozzeck; with Fritsch; Whitehouse, Greager, Mora, Hoffmann, Collins-White, Bermingham
Feb 2000; New Israeli Opera, Tel Aviv; Rigoletto, Rigoletto; with Carrera; O'Flynn, Ombuena, Rydell
Sep 2000 Opera Australia; Sydney; Bocanegra; Bocanegra; with Young, Prokina, Sylvester, Sumegi, Lewis
Nov 2000; Opera Australia; Melbourne; Wozzeck; Wozzeck; with Örtvös; Medlyn, Greager, Mora, Hoffmann, McEniery, Bermingham
Jun 2001; Opera Australia; Sydney; Balstrode; Peter Grimes; with Stanhope; Alexander, Saunders, Austin, McNicol, Ryan, Harris, Bermingham, Gunn, Carden, Jones, Speight
Sep 2001; State Opera South Australia; Adelaide; Amfortas; Parsifal; with Tate; Elming, Medlyn, Hemm, Sumegi, Dawe
Nov 2001; New Israeli Opera; Tel Aviv; Pere Germon; La Traviata; with Ettinger; Burato/Loukianetz, Ombuena/Lombardo, Bertman/Dvorin, Plakhina, Talmon, Briger, Bechar
Mar 2002; Theatre du Capitole; Toulouse; Balstrode; Peter Grimes; with Bradshaw; Begley, Bladin, Dean, Jean, Byrne, Bayley, Howarth, Steiger, Borg, Galois, Collins
Apr 2002; Houston Grand Opera; Houston; Prus; Makropulos; with Sloane; Evans, Brubaker, Reiersen, Sutlif, Malfitano, Niederloh, Winograde, Shelton, Davies, Lenormand
Jun 2002; Buhnen der Stadt; Cologne; Scarpia; Tosca; with Feranec; Papian, Hartman, Stoykov, Hielscher, Finke, Turk, Sindermann
Jul/Aug 2002; Opera Australia; Sydney; Alfio; Cavalleria Rusticana; with Young; Cullen, Bolotova/Bermingham, O'Neil, Carby

Jul/Aug2002; Opera Australia; Sydney; Tonio; Pagliacci; with Young; O'Neil, McGregor/Harms, De Jong, Kim
Sep2002; Opera Australia; Sydney; Scarpia; Tosca; with Fritzsich; Alexander, Bolton-Wood, Yi, Carden, Dawes, Saunders, Anderson
Aug/Sep2003; Opera Australia; Sydney; Iago; Otello; with Young; Prokina, Poretta, Thorpe, Wood, Neilson-Kemp, Dark, Anderson, Baumann
Nov/Dec2003; Opera Australia; Melbourne; Scarpia; Tosca; with Fritzsich; Riedel, O'Neill, Arthur, Fife, Dawes, Brunato, Anderson
Jan/Feb2004; Opera Australia; Sydney; Hollander; Der Fliegender Hollander; with George Alexander Albrecht; Gasteen, Hunter-Morris, Sumegi, Brown, Brunson
Nov/Dec 2004: State Opera of South Australia; Adelaide; Gunter; Götterdämmerung; with Fisch, Gasteen, Cole, Mussard, Wegner, Dal Monte, Campbell, Keegan, MacFarlane, Ladner, Dunlop, Jones, McKendree-Wright
Nov/Dec 2005: The Israeli Opera; Tel Aviv; Pere Germon; La Traviata; Zeffirelli directing; with Stephanelli/Sebba, Mosuc/Ardelean, Franci/Raz, Snarski/Nezhynetz, Kanunikoff/Semillian, Briger, Bechar, Canonici/Marcias/Copalbo, Yerufiev, Leveroni/Kabelsky,
Apr/May 2006: The Israeli Opera; Tel Aviv; Renato; Un Ballo in Maschera; with Montanaro/Wellber, Giuliani/Ivanov, Crider/Tetuev, Zaremba/Sandler, Skibinsky/Gearhart, Briger, Braun, Bechar

10) RELATED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES: Orchestral repertoire includes:

Elijah (Mendelssohn), Requiem (Faure), Requiem (Brahms), Messiah (Handel), Beshazzar's Feast and Gloria (Walton), The Kingdom, The Apostles and The Dream of Gerontius (all by Elgar), Carmina Burana (Orff), Sea Symphony (Vaughan Williams), Des Knaben Wunder Horn (Mahler), A Mass of Life (Delius), L'enfance du Christ (Berlioz), War Requiem (Britten),

He has performed in concert with most British Orchestras.

He has also performed with the Orchestre de Paris under Barenboim, the Berlin Philharmonica under Muti, and the Orchestre Symphonique de Montreal under Charles Dutoit.

In Australia he has sung with both the Sydney and Melbourne Symphony Orchestras.

11) COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS:

date / country / competition or award

COMPETITIONS WON

1972; Australia; Adelaide Eisteddfod Championship

1973; Australia; Melbourne Sun Aria, Sydney Sun Aria, Adelaide Advertiser Aria, Australian Broadcasting Commission

Instrumental and Vocal Competition (Vocal Section), BP Showcase (a National TV talent quest).

1974; Australia; Canberra Aria.

AWARDS

1979; USA; the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences best opera recording for 1979 (Grammy Award) as a Principal Soloist on the recording of Peter Grimes with Jon Vickers, Heather Harper, Sir Colin Davis and the Orchestra and Chorus of the Royal Opera House

1988; Australia; Green Room Theatre Awards, Victoria - "Leading Male Artist" as Gerard in Andrea Chenier for the Victoria State Opera

2000; Australia; Green Room Theatre Awards, Victoria - "Opera Male Singer in a Principal Role" as Wozzeck in Opera Australia's production on Wozzeck

2002; Australia; Helpmann Awards; "Best Supporting Male Performer in an Opera"; in Cavalleria Rusticana and Pagliacci for Opera Australia

2003; Australia; Helpmann Awards; "Best Male Performer in an Opera" as Amfortas in Parsifal for State Opera on South Australia

12) RECORDINGS:

composer / work / label

OPERA

Britten - PETER GRIMES - Philips Classics 462 847-2

Jon Vickers, Heather Harper and Sir Colin Davis conducting the orchestra and chorus of The Royal Opera House Covent Garden circa. 1979

Grammy Award for the best opera recording 1979

Puccini - LA BOHEME - Golden Melodram GM 6.0004-2 CD

Contrubas, Aragall, Ghazarian, Rawnsley, Howell, Dobson, Garrett and Carlos Kleiber conducting the orchestra and chorus of The Royal Opera House Covent Garden, live recording London 7 Nov 1979

Saint-Saens - SAMSON ET DALILA - Philips 426 243-2

Josè Carreras, Agnes Baltsa and Sir Collin Davis conducting the orchestra and chorus of Bayerischer Rundfunk, Munich, recorded Feb 1989

Leoncavallo - LA BOHEME - Nuovo Era 6917/19

Martha Senn, Bruno Pratico, Mario Malagnini, Lucia Mazzaria and Jan Latham-Koenig conducting the orchestra and chorus of La Fenice, Venice, recorded Jan 1990

Balfé - THE BOHEMIAN GIRL - Decca/Argo 433 324-2

Nova Thomas, Patrick Power, Bernadette Cullen, Richard Bonyngé conducting the orchestra and chorus of RTE, Dublin, recorded Jan 1991

Britten - GLORIANA - Decca/Argo 440 213-2

Philip Langridge, Josephine Barstow, Yvonne Kenny, Della Jones, Bryn Terfel, Richard Van Allen and Sir Charles Mackerras conducting the orchestra and chorus of Welsh National Opera, recorded Oct/Nov 1992

ORCHESTRAL

Orff - CARMINA BURANA - EMI

Arleen Auger, John Van Kesterin and Riccardo Muti conducting the Philharmonia orchestra and chorus recorded at Studio 1, Abbey Road, London, recorded circa 77/78

BBC Radio 3 "Building a Record Library" best recording, all available recordings compared.

Vaughan Williams - A SEA SYMPHONY - EMI

Felicity Lott and Sir Bernard Haitink conducting the Philharmonia orchestra and chorus recorded at Studio 1, Abbey Road, London, recorded Mar 1989

Gramophone Magazine's Best Symphonic recording 1989

Orff - CARMINA BURANA - ABC Classics 472 481-2

Sara Macliver, Paul McMahon and Antony Walker conducting Cantillation, recorded ABC Sydney 2002

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