

Léon Phillip Charles

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DATE OF BIRTH:

17th July 1986

EDUCATION:

The Purcell School of Music (1994-2004),

The University of Cambridge (St John's College) (2005-2008)

- Honours Degree (BA) obtained in Music (First Class), MA obtained 2012

Performance Diplomas: LRSM (Licentiate of the Royal Schools of Music, 2001) & FRCO (Fellowship of the Royal College of Organists, 2003)

NATIONALITY:

British

WORK EXPERIENCE/EMPLOYMENT:

2004 – 2005: Held Organ Scholarship at Canterbury Cathedral

2005 – 2008 - Held Organ Studentship at St John's College, Cambridge

2008 - 2009 - Held Organ Scholarship at Westminster Abbey

THEATRE/CONCERT CREDITS:

CHICAGO (2018-current)

Phoenix Theatre - Assistant MD & Piano 1

THE WOMAN IN WHITE (2017-2018)

Charing Cross Theatre - Associate MD & Keys 1

HAIRSPRAY (2017-2018)

UK & Ireland Tour - Band dep (Keys 2)

SUNSET BOULEVARD (2017-2018)

UK, Ireland & International Tour - Rehearsal pianist & band dep (Keys 3)

CHICAGO (2017)

North American International Tour (Korea) - Piano 2/Accordion

STRICTLY BALLROOM (2017)

West Yorkshire Playhouse - Band dep (Keys 2)

CHICAGO (2016-2017)

UK, Ireland & International Tour (Switzerland & Singapore) - MD (previously Assistant MD & Piano/Accordion)

DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS (2015)

UK Tour - Deputy MD & Keys 2

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY (2015-2016)

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane - Band dep (Keys 1)

MISS SAIGON (2014-2015)

Prince Edward Theatre - Band dep (Keys 2)

THE REALNESS (2014)

Hackney Downs Theatre - Deputy MD

SÉRÉNADE (2014)

The Royal Ballet - Rehearsal/Company Pianist

THE WINTER'S TALE (2014)

The Royal Ballet - Rehearsal/Company Pianist

WICKED (2013-current)

Victoria Apollo Theatre - Band dep (Keys 1)

CANDIDE (2013-14)

Menier Chocolate Factory - Assistant MD

HIGH SOCIETY (2013)

UK & Ireland Tour - Associate MD/Acting MD & Keys & Dance Arranger

HELLO DOLLY (2012)

Leicester Curve - Rehearsal pianist

WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND (Taylor/Labey) (2012)

Octagon Theatre, Yeovil - Keys

MATTHEW BOURNE'S PLAY WITHOUT WORDS (2012)

UK Tour, inc. Leicester Curve, Sadler's Wells & Theatre Royal, Norwich - Cover MD

OPENING DOORS: FESTIVAL OF FIRSTS – THE MUSICAN (2012)

Michael Peavoy Productions - MD

ALFIE BOE: BRING HIM HOME TOUR (2011-2012)

Decca Records & SJM, UK Tour - Assistant MD & Keys

CHRISTMAS RAT PACK (2011)

Flying Entertainment, inc. UK Tour & Wyndham's Theatre - Rehearsal pianist

CRAZY FOR YOU' (2011-2012)

Regent's Park Open Air Theatre & Novello Theatre - Rehearsal pianist & band dep (Keys 2)

CELEBRATION OF BRITISH MUSICAL THEATRE (St George's Day 2011)

Trafalgar Square - Orchestrator, Assistant MD & Keys 1

THE SECRET GARDEN (2010-2011)

Festival Theatre, Edinburgh - Assistant MD & Keys 2

SONGS FROM A HOTEL BEDROOM (2010)

UK Tour, inc. Watford Palace Theatre, New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich & Linbury Studio - Assistant MD

SUNSET BITCH (2010)

Waterloo East Theatre - MD & arranger

JERSEY BOYS (2010-2011)

Prince Edward Theatre - Band dep (Keys 2)

SHOES (2010)

Sadler's Wells - Rehearsal pianist

THE FANTASTICKS (2010)

Duchess Theatre - Copyist, music preparation & band dep (Keys 1)

PARADISE FOUND (2010)

Menier Chocolate Factory - Guest MD

ANNIE GET YOUR GUN (2009-2010)

Young Vic - Rehearsal pianist, copyist, music preparation & band dep (Piano 2)

THESEUS & THE MINOTAUR (2008)

ADC Theatre, Cambridge (Cambridge Footlights) - Composer, orchestrator, arranger, band dep (Keys 1) & musical supervisor

COMPOSING/ARRANGING/ ORCHESTRATION CREDITS:

Recent performances include:

Cambridge University Music Society Wind Orchestra

The Choristers of Westminster Abbey

(in the presence of HM The Queen & HRH The Duke of Edinburgh)

Cambridge Footlights

(Edinburgh Festival 2009)

Other works include various chamber & orchestral music, song cycles, solo music & close harmony, vocal, orchestral & band arrangements.

Associate arranger & orchestrator for **Morgan Pochin Music Productions**, for clients including:

Decca Records

Syco

Deutsche Grammophon

Craig Ogden

The King's Singers

Alfie Boe

Jack Topping

Collabro

Jason Manford

The **Classical Brit Awards** (John Barry & Hans Zimmer tributes)

ITV (The Alan Titchmarsh Show)

Classic FM (A Night at the Movies)

Renaissance Films Ltd (First Night starring Richard E Grant & Sarah Brightman)

Headline Pictures Ltd (Quartet starring Maggie Smith, Billy Connolly, Michael Gambon, Tom Courtenay & Andrew Sachs, Dir. Dustin Hoffman; served as on-set Music Coach, Consultant & Advisor and soundtrack Pianist).

OTHER:

- Experience as accompanist in rehearsal, audition & performance contexts - instrumental, vocal, chorus repetiteur etc. also includes **Menier Chocolate Factory (La Cage Aux Folles & Funny Girl), Lost Musicals (The Day Before Spring), High School Musical, Ghost, Finding Neverland, Chariots Of Fire, The Pajama Game, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory & Hairspray.**

- Several broadcasts on BBC & international radio, Internet broadcasts, several international tours and two commercial recordings (as Organ accompanist).

- Vocal/repertoire coach, both privately & group work (Musical Theatre), including audition preparation.

- Experience as a lounge/jazz pianist in all contexts - includes current evening sessions at **Wimbledon Wine Cellars & The Garrick Club**, also as Cabaret MD - includes sets in the **Pheasantry & Beaufort Bar, Savoy Hotel** as Musical Director/Arranger to Jessica Martin.

- Experience as a choral conductor/director & vocal/choir trainer, having worked with both amateur and professional choirs & singers (including working with children).