Madison Horman Full Bio 2025

New Zealand soprano Madison Horman graduated with an Advanced Diploma in Opera from the Royal Academy of Music as a Bicentenary Scholar under the tutelage of Nuccia Focile and Ingrid Surgenor, with personal mentorship from Dame Kiri Te Kanawa.

Prior to her studies at RAM, she attained both her Master of Music and Postgraduate Diploma: Advanced Studies in Performance with Distinction from the Royal Northern College of Music, where she studied with Eiddwen Harrhy.

Whilst at the RAM, Madison performed the roles of Countess Almaviva and Lady Billows in the Royal Academy Operas performances of Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* and Britten's *Albert Herring* to great critical acclaim. She performed the roles of Fiordiligi, Ellen Orford, Mimì and Arabella in opera scenes of *Così fan tutte, Peter Grimes, La bohème* and *Arabella* and debuted at Wigmore Hall in a masterclass with American soprano Roberta Alexander.

In 2024 she won the Wellington Regional Aria, placed third in the Elizabeth Connell Prize at Wigmore Hall and was runner up at the CloIter Opera Prize where she represented the Academy competing against the five other leading UK Conservatoires. She was runner up in the Joan Sutherland & Richard Bonynge Bel Canto Award where she also won the Mozart Prize, a semifinalist in the Kathleen Ferrier Award and won the Staetshuys Fonds 3rd Prize as well as the Van Amelsvoort Prize for her interpretation and world orchestral debut of 'Veronese's Green' at the s'-Hertogenbosch International Vocal Competition. In 2023 she won the Richard Lewis/Jean Shanks Award for singing - the Academy's largest competition and placed second in the Lockwood New Zealand Aria Competition where she also won the German Lieder class. She was awarded the Tait ROSL Award for the most outstanding New Zealand/Australian musician at the 2023 Royal Over-Seas League overseas final and was the recipient of a Wayne Sleep Foundation Award.

In 2022 she made her Bridgewater Hall debut preforming both the small role of Cousin, and as part of the ensemble in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* with the Hallé conducted by Sir Mark Elder, and also performed alongside the Philharmonia Voices in a performance of Beethoven's *Fidelio,* conducted by Sir Donald Runnicles at the Edinburgh International Festival.

During her time at the RNCM, Madison made her operatic role debut as Mrs Gobineau in the RNCM production of Menotti's *The Medium* and sang the role of Ellen Orford in Britten's *Peter Grimes* as well as excerpts of Mimì from Puccini's *La Bohème* in RNCM conducting masterclasses with orchestra. She has been heard in opera scenes including the title role in Strauss' *Arabella*, Donna Elvira in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, Elettra in Mozart's *Idomeneo*, and Magda in Puccini's *La Rondine.* Madison has sung in masterclasses with Sir Graham Vick, Susan Bullock, Adrianne Pieczonka, Ann Murray, Omer Wellber, Prof. Edith Wiens and Nicky Spence. In 2021 she was one of two sopranos selected for the Opera North Chorus Mentorship Scheme.

Other competition success includes the 2022 Royal Over-Seas League Award for a young New Zealand musician of promise and second in the Isabel Jay Memorial Prize at the RAM. She was the winner of the Bessie Cronshaw/Frost Brownson Song Cycle Prize at the RNCM for her performance of Korngolds *Op.22: Drei Lieder* and was awarded the Brigitte Fassbaender Award for the best singing of Lieder at the RNCM. In both 2020 and 2021, she was the recipient of the Dame Eva Turner award, was a finalist in the Frederic Cox Award competition at the RNCM and in 2021 was a finalist in the Sir David Madison Opera Prize in Liverpool. Madison has been a recipient of the International Trinity College Exhibition Prize and was nominated for the bi-annual National Young Performer Awards in 2016 and 2018.