



Press quotes for *Peer Gynt* collaboration with the BBC Symphony Orchestra

'Patrick Walshe McBride's easy braggadocio as Gynt always came through' *Geoff Brown, The Times, 18 December 2012*

'The real stars, though, were the Guildhall students, above all Patrick Walshe McBride as Peer – witty, charming and wonderfully touching, notably in the scene in which he tells his mother fantastic tales as she dies. Fusing speech and sound into an indivisible unit, it ranks among the greatest passages in all music theatre, and proved extraordinarily moving' *Tim Ashley, The Guardian, 19 December 2012*

'Peer Gynt was played with much gusto by Patrick Walshe McBride, who had both the charm and cockiness that suited the character...Though all actors were excellent this evening, special mention should go to Tom Lincoln. He tackled the strange roles...with much humour and confidence' *Renée Reitsma, Bachtrack, 18 December 2012*

'The troupe did well...each artist took well their characters...and praise should be noted for their confidence and enunciation; no swallowed syllables here.
...the Guildhall School representatives impressed' *Colin Anderson, Classical Source, 16 December 2012*

'The six actors were led by an engaging Peer from Patrick Walshe McBride, full of cocky Irish swagger but also unbearably moving in 'The Death of Ase' narrating his mother (Melanie Hislop) through an imaginary journey to the pearly gates...Grace Andrews charmed as Solveig and seduced as Anitra. Tom Lincoln was especially deadpan as 'the Boyg' or 'Obstacle'...All in all, a deeply satisfying evening and, I suspect, well worth catching on its radio broadcast.' *Mark Pullinger, Opera Britannia, 16 December 2012*

'Patrick Walshe McBride was brilliantly charming as an Irish Peer Gynt, making a complete, entrancing character out of the fragments of the play allotted to him, holding us in the palm of his hand and being the focus of the drama for the whole piece. Grace Andrews played the women in Peer Gynt's life...giving each a nicely differentiated shading. Cormac Brown was a lively King of the Trolls and other characters, Melanie Hislop had a nice nagging edge to her delivery as Ase...all created a real feeling of drama, helped by the poised narrations of Evelyn Miller.' *Robert Hugill, Opera Today, 16 December 2012*

Other reviewers: Musical Opinion, Nick Breckenfield (What's on When), Gramophone