ROYAL WELSH COLLEGE OF MUSIC & DRAMA COLEG BRENHINOL CERDD A DRAMA CYMRU

Darren Smith

Darren started his career in The Band of The Grenadier Guards at the age of Sixteen. Having spent fourteen years in the Army, Darren studied Bass Trombone under Bob Hughes at The Royal Academy of Music in 2003. Before Joining the BBC National Orchestra of Wales as Principal Bass Trombone in 2012, Darren had an extensive freelance career. For three years he was the Bass trombonist of the Syd Lawrence Orchestra.

Darren has played in many musical theatre productions in London's West End including, *Phantom of the Opera*, *Lion King*, *Lord of the Rings* and *The Sound of Music*. Darren enjoyed being the Trombone/Bass Trombone in the pit orchestra for *Wicked* the musical. Darren has also played in many of the country's leading symphony orchestras, including The London Philharmonic Orchestra, The Philharmonia Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden amongst others.

He can also be heard playing bass and contra bass trombone on several Hollywood soundtracks including *Batman*, *The Dark Knight*, *Inception*, *Black Swan*, *Ironman 2*, *Sherlock Holmes*, *Monsters vs Aliens*, *Kung Fu Panda*, *Alice through the Looking Glass* and *Kingsman*: *The Golden Circle*.