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ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Kristian Benedikt, tenor



"...And of course the effect is powered by the voice of a tenor as Kristian Benedikt, beautiful color dark and powerful ring, which has extensive guarantees of temperament and seal."

(Il Corriere della sera)

Lithuanian tenor Kristian Benedikt has built up a reputation as one of the leading international singers Verdi's Otello.

He sang this most demanding role **more than 100 times**: at Wiener Staatsoper, Bavarian State Opera Munich, at the Mariinski Theatre in St. Petersburg, Modena, Piacenza, Cagliari, Palermo, Ekaterinenburg, Santiago de Chile, Vilnius, Graz, Basel, Stockholm, Latvian Opera Festival and at Victoria's Pacific Opera, Montreal Opera, Savonlinna Festival etc.

During last two years, he has debuted in London Royal Covent Garden Opera with the role of **Canio** (conductor A. Pappano, staging of D. Michieletto), sang **Otello** in Wiener Staatsoper (cond. M. Armiliato, staging of D. Michieletto), Hungarian National Opera, Al Bustan Festival (cond. G. Marciano) and in production of Salzburg Easter festival (with K. Thielemann), sung **Samson** in Torino Regio (cond. P. Steinberg, staging H. De Ana), **Herman** in Hungarian National Opera (cond. B. Kocsar), debuted in Macedonian National Opera with **Calaf** (G. Del Monaco production), also sang **Siegfried** in Odense (cond. A. Vedernikov), Otello in Savonlinna Festival and gave gala concert in Jurmala Festival.

In **2017** he will perform **José** in Lithuanian National Opera, Herman in Luzern Festival, **Cavaradossi** in Llangollen (Wales) and **Radames** in Estonian National Opera; during the 2017/18 season he will sing **Dick Johnson** in Trieste and **Siegfried** in Odense New Opera house.

Other **future engagements** include **Manrico** (Il trovatore), Samson (Samson et Dalila), Cavaradossi (Toska), Canio (I pagliacci), Herman (The Queen of Spades), Otello.

Highlights of past seasons are Don José (Carmen), Cavaradossi (Tosca), Samson (Samson et Dalila), Calaf (Turandot), Pinkerton (Madame Butterfly), Canio (I pagliacci), as well as roles like Eleazar (La juive), Manrico (Il trovatore), Dick Johanson (La fanciulla del West), Edgardo (Lucia di Lammermoor), the title roles in "Andrea Chenier", "Ernani", "Rienzi", "Lohengrin" and Hoffmann in "Les Contes d'Hoffmann" in Munich, Saint Petersburg, Santiago de Chile, Mexico, Beijing, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Stockholm, Amsterdam, Tallinn, Barcelona, Bergamo, Palermo among others.

He began his career at Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre where he performed more than 20 different roles. Starting out his career as a lyrical tenor, he made his first international experiences recording Ponchielli's "La Gioconda" conducted by Marcello Viotti next to Placido Domingo and in Amsterdam's "Don Carlo" conducted by Riccardo Chailly. Subsequently he was guesting Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg, at most opera houses of the Baltic countries.

He has performed under the baton of **conductors such as** Antonio Pappano, Marco Armiliato, Marcello Votti, Riccardo Chailly, Maurizio Barbacini, Paolo Carignani, Asher Fisch, Renato Palumbo, Valeri Gergiev, Alexander Vedernikov and is working with **stage directors** like Giancarlo del Monaco, Damiano Michieletto, Willy Decker, David Alden, Calixto Bieito, Hugo de Ana, Dmitri Bertman, Eimuntas Nekrošius or Pier Francesco Maestrini.

As a **concert singer** he has sung among others in Verdi's Requiem, Mahler's Das Lied von der Erde, Rachmaninov's The Bells and Webber's Requiem.