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ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Dillon Parmer, tenor



“Outstanding...the highlight of the evening”
- R. Todd, OTTAWA CITIZEN

Audiences always welcome tenor DILLON PARMER for a voice that “breathes warmth and lyricism.” Critics praise his performances as “particularly rewarding,” “finely honed,” and “outstanding.”

Mr. Parmer has been heard on CBC radio and television and has appeared as a guest soloist with such companies as Opera Lyra Ottawa, I Musici de Montreal, the Nathaniel Dett Chorale, Seventeen Voyces, Thirteen Strings, Gatineau Chamber Orchestra, Musica Divina, L’orchestre symphonique de Trois-Rivières, Timmins Symphony Orchestra,

L’orchestra symphonique du nouveau monde, Choeur classique de l’Outaouais, Canadian Centennial Choir, Opera Breva, and Productions lyrique de Gatineau.

Mr. Parmer is a versatile oratorio singer with a repertoire spanning over forty major concert roles. Whether in Bach’s *Mass in B Minor* or Britten’s *Saint Nicolas*, Handel’s *Messiah* or Haydn’s *Die Jahreszeiten*, Mozart’s *Requiem* or Mendelssohn’s *Elijah*, Beethoven’s *Ninth Symphony* or Rossini’s *Stabat Mater*, he is equally at ease. Mr. Parmer has refined his dramatic and comedic skills in nearly thirty operatic roles ranging from Mozart’s *Così fan tutte*, *Don Giovanni*, and *Die Zauberflöte*, through Donizetti’s *Betty* and *Rita*, Offenbach’s *La Périchole* and *Barbe-bleue*, to Poulenc’s *Dialogues des Carmélites* and Moore’s *Gallantry*.

An avid supporter of the avant garde, Mr. Parmer has premiered numerous new works, including the Canadian première of Smith Moore’s Nobel Prize-nominated *Scenes from the Life of a Martyr* (Toronto Center for Performing Arts), as well as the world première of Anthony Davis’s 9/11 commemorative *Restful Mourning (Piccolo Spoleto)*.

Recent engagements include Black and White Opera Gala, Bach’s *Saint John Passion*, Rossini’s *Petite Messe Solennelle*, Laertes in Thomas’ *Hamlet*, Ottavio in Mozart’s *Don Giovanni*, and Malcolm in Verdi’s *Macbeth*. In the past year, Mr. Parmer—under the direction of Bill Schuman—has moved into full lyric-spinto roles.