

PHILIP WEBB

Tenor

Whether in concert or on stage in an opera, tenor Philip Webb receives rave reviews for being one the most remarkable new voices in classical music today. The London Times reported that as Radames in *Aida* “he thrills the crowd with Verdian power and passion.” As Des Grieux in Puccini’s *Manon Lescaut*, the Victoria Times observed he “unleashed a torrent of power and emotion, shaping his arias with ringing top notes.” And as Calaf in Puccini’s *Turandot*, the New York Sun noted that his “passionate rendition of the work’s central theme, *Nessun dorma* bled with the Italianate realism of an early Pavarotti.”

Equally as impressive as his intensity is Mr. Webb’s superb vocal technique that allows him to project the emotional subtleties requisite for each role. Describing his performance as Pollione in Bellini’s *Norma*, critic David Shengold commented that “Philip Webb’s stalwart tenor combined baritone heft and a clean high range up to an impressive C – a sounder Pollione than several famous names.” And as Calaf, the New York Times remarked that he exhibited the “warm, rounded, fully supported tone a tenor needs to caress *Nessun dorma* as well as a more stentorian current for his encounters with *Turandot*.”

Especially sought after for Italian spinto roles that include Don Alvaro in *La Forza del Destino*, Otello in *Otello*, Radames in *Aida*, Des Grieux in *Manon Lescaut* and Calaf in *Turandot*, Mr. Webb has applied the same dynamic intensity and interpretative skill to a growing German tenor repertoire. Appearing as Erik in *Der Fliegende Hollander*, Lohengrin in *Lohengrin*, Walter in *Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg* and Bacchus in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, he continues to engage and enthrall audiences around the world with what has been described as his “powerful and passionate” performances.

Following his dramatic mid-performance Metropolitan Opera debut as Manrico in *Il Trovatore* during the 2008-2009 Season, Mr. Webb returned as the First Armed Man in *Die Zauberflote*, Calaf in *Turandot* and Erik in *Der Fliegende Hollander* in 2009-2010. That same season, he also joined the Opera National de Lorraine in the title role in *Otello* and reprised his much heralded portrayal of Radames in *Aida* on the floating stage at the Bregenz Festival where he appeared in nine performances of it the year before.

During the 2007-2008 Season, Mr. Webb participated in the inaugural presentation at the Atlanta Opera’s new theatre as Calaf in Puccini’s *Turandot* which he also performed at the New York City Opera. Other appearances that season included Pollione in Bellini’s *Norma* with the Opera Company of Philadelphia, Radames in Verdi’s *Aida* with the Portland Opera, Rodolfo in *Luisa Miller* with the Gran Teatre de Liceu, and Rodolfo in *La Boheme* and Pinkerton in *Madam Butterfly*, both at the Vienna Staatsoper.

Operatic highlights from previous seasons included appearances as Pollione in *Norma* with the Portland and Seattle Operas, the Vienna Staatsoper, Opera Colorado and the Opera de Quebec, Cavaradossi in *Tosca* with the Atlanta Opera, Manrico in *Il Trovatore* with the Austin Lyric and Virginia Operas, Radames in *Aida* with the Utah Opera and Riccardo in *Un Ballo in Maschera* with the Florida Grand Opera. Of special note was a performance as Don Alvaro in *La Forza del Destino* in Verdi's hometown of Busseto, Italy, with the Fondazione Arturo Toscanini and a cast prepared musically by Carlo Bergonzi.

Concert performances by Mr. Webb include Verdi's *Requiem* with the New York Choral Society at Carnegie Hall, the Louisville Symphony Orchestra, the Sarasota Opera, and the Dayton Philharmonic, Chautauqua, Nashville and Fort Worth and Toledo Symphonies, Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* with the Chautauqua and Grand Park Symphonies, and several Gala concerts featuring the Flemish National Radio Orchestra of Antwerp, Belgium. Mr. Webb also joined the Milwaukee Symphony, Grant Park Symphony and the Minnesota Orchestra in programs of Italian songs and arias with Doc Severinsen, and performed Verdi's *Requiem*, re-titled the "Defiant Requiem," at the Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and in a performance with the Oregon Symphony which was broadcast nationally over PBS.

During his career, Mr. Webb has had the privilege of working in collaboration with many of the world's most talented conductors and musicians, including Carol Rizzi, Vjekoslav Suteji, Marco Armiliato, Hugh Grant, Gianandrea Noseda, Placido Domingo, Marcello Viotti, Robert Spano, Julian Kovachek, Zubin Mehta, Daniele Callegari, Donald Runnicles, Maurizio Benini, Yves Abel, Stephen Lord, Bernard Labadie, Corrado Rovaris, Eduardo Mueller, Antonio Pappano and Michael Tilson Thomas.