

Chaz'men Williams-Ali

Tenor



" Tenor Chaz'men Williams-Ali is solid as the seedy wastrel *Spinner*."
Ladue News, Mark Bretz, 20 June 2019

" Lyrical doesn't begin to capture to sublime beauty and suppleness of tenor Chaz'men Williams-Ali's voice as *Roméo*. Soaring throughout the *Kay Theatre* in almost every scene of the opera, Mr. Williams-Ali's voice was a revelation throughout the evening, as in the tender duet "O nuit divine"...or in the deeply emotional duet of love and forgiveness with *Juliette* "Va! Je t'ai pardonné," Mr. Williams-Ali gorgeously conveyed every emotion *Roméo* experienced with his voice. "

Jacqueline Lucas Wilson, DC Metro Arts, July 20, 2015

American tenor, Chaz'men Williams-Ali begins Season 2019/20 as principal tenor at Theater & Orchester Heidelberg, his debut season in the ensemble. Roles this season include Pinkerton *Madama Butterfly* and Florestan *Fidelio*.

Last season he joined English National Opera for the roles of Robbins and The Crab Man *Porgy & Bess* in their new co-production with The Metropolitan Opera and Dutch National Opera; following the London performances, he travelled to Amsterdam to appear in the roles there. He also covered the role of Edgardo *Lucia de Lammermoor* at ENO and appeared in their staged production of Britten's *War Requiem*.

In the US Chaz took on the role of Lensky (c) *Eugene Onegin* at Washington National Opera and went on to Fort Worth Opera for revival performances of Robbins/Crab Man in the Glimmerglass Festival Production of *Porgy & Bess*, roles he inaugurated at the festival the previous season. At Opera Theatre of St Louis, Chaz'men sang a principal role in the world premiere *Fire Shut up in my Bones* by Terence Blanchard, following on from the great success of his previous opera *Champion*. He ended the season returning to Glimmerglass Opera to produce and perform in their sell-out *Gospel Concerts*.

Recent highlights include his return to OTSL as a Gaddes Festival Artist in their summer season covering Alfredo *La Traviata* and taking on the featured role of Jazz in the rarely heard *Regina*—the great success of the season—alongside Susan Graham and James Morris. He returned to Washington DC in April to sing Don Jose *Carmen* in concert with The Washington Chorus under the baton of Christopher Bell, and he made his Florida Grand Opera debut as Arturo *Lucia de Lammermoor*.

In previous seasons, Chaz made his Kennedy Centre debut when he sang the role of Pinkerton *Madama Butterfly* in concert with Washington National Opera's Domingo-Cafritz young artists ensemble in 2017, and he returned to Glimmerglass Festival as a young artist following his previous-year's success as Giles Cory *The Crucible* and jumping in to sing Rodolfo *La Boheme*.

Originally from St Louis, Missouri, the artist began his studies at Central Visual and Performing Arts High School, went into Opera Theatre St. Louis Artist-in-Training program for two years, and then studied voice at the University of Iowa School of Music, where he excelled in his many appearances in opera and oratorio performances including *La Traviata*, *The Elixir of Love*, and *Romeo et Juliette*.

Chaz'men made his professional opera debut in 2008 in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Gondoliers* with Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre. His other roles are Ferrando *Così fan tutte*, Bill *Flight*, Cavaradossi *Tosca*, Edgardo *Lucia de Lammermoor*, Romeo *Romeo et Juliette* and Nemorino *L'elisir d'amore*.

The artist has broad musical interests and lends his great talents to other genres, appearing professionally with a jazz ensemble alongside his drummer father, and in blues venues of renown in the US. He is also an experienced music director and conductor in smaller companies and has been known to appear as the Cowardly Lion *The Wizard of Oz* and in the title role *Shrek, the Musical*.

EXCLUSIVE WORLDWIDE REPRESENTATION

Artist Manager: Deborah Sanders
deborah.sanders@rayfieldallied.com
Biography valid until September 2020
For updated versions please contact
nathan.murphy@rayfieldallied.com