

# John Chest

Baritone



**“The poised intensity of Chest’s presence and delivery complements the dark, rich colours in his voice, but the quicksilver wit of Rossini’s Figaro is also in his armoury...”**

*Opera Now*

American baritone John Chest has sung at major opera houses throughout Europe and the United States, including Washington National Opera, Festival d’Aix-en-Provence, Théâtre du Capitole Toulouse, Semperoper Dresden and Glyndebourne Festival Opera.

Highlights of the 2018-19 season include his house debuts at the Teatro Real Madrid (Valentin *Faust*) and Den Norske Opera (Belcore *L’elisir d’amore*), as well as his role debut as Heathcliff in Bernard Hermann’s *Wuthering Heights* (Opera national de Lorraine).

Highlights of the 2017-18 season included Guglielmo *Così fan tutte* (Bayerische Staatsoper), Papageno *Die Zauberflöte* (Deutsche Oper Berlin) and his house debut at Glyndebourne Festival (Pelléas *Pelléas et Mélisande*).

Other engagements include Albert *Werther* at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Nick Carraway *The Great Gatsby* (Staatsoper Dresden), Valentin *Faust* (Théâtre du Capitole Toulouse), the title role of *Don Giovanni* (Angers Nantes Opera), Marcello *La bohème* (Washington National Opera), Fritz *Die tote Stadt* (Nantes and Nancy), Nardo *La finta giardiniera* and Demetrius *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (both Aix-en-Provence), Eddie in Mark-Anthony Turnage’s *Greek* (Salzburg Landestheater), Ned Keene *Peter Grimes* (Norwegian Opera), Conte Almaviva *Le nozze di Figaro* (Nationale Reisopera and Opera Philadelphia), and Masetto *Don Giovanni* in Bari.

Equally passionate about art song, Chest sang his second recital with pianist Marcelo Amaral at the Wigmore Hall in 2018, following a successful debut recital there in 2013.

Chest is a graduate of the Opera Studio at the Bayerische Staatsoper, where he sang over eighty performances. He has held apprenticeships with the Santa Fe Opera and the Chicago Opera Theater and took part in the prestigious Merola Opera Programme. He holds a master’s degree in music from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, where he studied with David Holloway.

Until September 2016 he was a member of the ensemble at the Deutsche Oper Berlin, where his roles included the title role of *Billy Budd* in a new production by David Alden, Valentin *Faust*, Ford *Falstaff*, Silvio *Pagliacci*, Figaro *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Papageno *Die Zauberflöte*, Guglielmo *Così fan tutte*, and Il Conte Almaviva *Le nozze di Figaro*.

Chest was a finalist in the 2017 BBC Cardiff Singer of the World competition and won the prestigious 2010 Stella Maris International Vocal Competition. He was also a finalist in the 2011 Queen Sonja International Music Competition. He is a recipient of a Richard Tucker Music Foundation Career Grant.

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