

Andrew Watts

Countertenor



"With countertenor Watts, Neuwirth has the very best performing forces you could dream of."

Shirley Apthorp, *Financial Times*

(*Berliner Philharmoniker*, 2021–
World Premiere: *Keyframes for a Hippogriff*
by Olga Neuwirth)

Few countertenors have pushed the boundaries of repertoire and sound more than Andrew Watts. A dramatic voice unlike any other and extraordinary stage craft and presence make him a unique performer not only of parts traditionally associated with the voice type, but also a pioneer of 20th and 21st century repertoire. He is associated particularly with the role of **Edgar** in Reiman's *Lear*, which he has performed at Staatsoper Hamburg, Opéra national de Paris, Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Staatsoper Hannover, Bayerische Staatsoper Munich and Teatro Real Madrid.

As well as singing core roles of the countertenor repertoire such as **Ottone Agrippina** (Teatro Nacional de São Carlos, Lisbon), **Athamas Semele** (Oper Graz) and **Arsamene Xerxes** (English National Opera), **Oberon** *A Midsummer's Night Dream* and **Prince Go-Go** *Le Grand Macabre* (Wiener Staatsoper, Komische Oper Berlin, ENO, Oper Graz) and those less frequently done by countertenors such as **Baba the Turk** *The Rake's Progress* (Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, Dutch National Opera, Stanislavsky Theatre, Moscow) and **Orlofsky** *Die Fledermaus* (Bayerische Staatsoper and Oper Graz), he has performed over 60 world premieres.

Creating roles specifically written for him, Andrew has performed at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, La Scala, La Fenice, Staatsoper Berlin, with the New York Phil, L.A. Phil and at the Salzburg, Glyndebourne, Bregenz, Lucerne, Aldeburgh, Présences and Edinburgh International Festivals as well as the Ruhrtriennale and the BBC Proms in works by composers such as Harrison Birtwistle (*The Minotaur; Gawain; The Last Supper*), Olga Neuwirth (*Bählamms Fest; Lost Highway; The Outcast; Keyframes for a Hippogriff*), Unsuk Chin (*Alice in Wonderland*), Nuñez (*Märchen*), Guarneri (*Medea*), Raymond Yiu (*The Original Chinese Conjuror*), Michael Finnissey (*Thérèse Raquin*), Judith Weir (*Miss Fortune*), Torsten Rasch (*The Duchess of Malfi*), Tansy Davies (*Between Worlds*) and Elena Langer (*Figaro Gets A Divorce*).

Recent and upcoming highlights include the world premieres of Olga Neuwirth's *Monster's Paradise* (Staatsoper Hamburg, Opernhaus Zürich, and Oper Graz), Bárá Gísladóttir's *Good Vibes Only* (in his house debut at Deutsche Oper Berlin), and Errolyn Wallen's *A Christmas Miracle*.

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