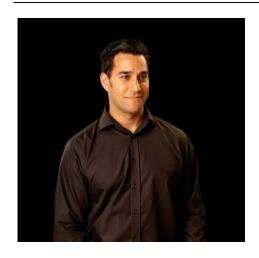


## **Phillip Rhodes**

## **Baritone**



"Phillip Rhodes did a very good job of Baron Scarpia, every inch a villain. Rhodes has a beautiful, dark voice with which he painted a perfect picture of the evil swindler with the character of a rotten medlar. His 'Va, Tosca' was luqubriously ominous."

Olivier Keegel, Opera Gazet

UK-based New Zealand baritone **Phillip Rhodes** was the winner of the 2005 New Zealand Aria Competition and was awarded second place at the International Montserrat Caballe Competition in 2008. He is a former Emerging Artist with New Zealand Opera and has since appeared regularly with the company in principal roles.

Last season he returned to New Zealand Opera in the title role of **Macbeth**, to Wellington Opera as **Enrico** Lucia di Lammermoor, and to Scottish Opera as **Escamillo** Carmen.

This season he looks forward to making his debut with Opera Australia as **Giorgio Germont** La Traviata, which he also sings at Scottish Opera, **Count Anckarström** Un ballo in Maschera with the Chelsea Opera Group, and further ahead to returning to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

Recent highlights include **Escamillo** *Carmen* (Royal Opera House, Opera North, Welsh National Opera, The Grange Festival); his role debut as **Figaro** *The Marriage of Figaro* (Opera North); **Monterone** *Rigoletto* (Royal Opera House); his house debut at Nederlandse Reisopera as **Scarpia** *Tosca*; **Father** *Hansel and Gretel* and **Ford** *Falstaff* (Scottish Opera); **Speaker** *The Magic Flute* (Welsh National Opera); **Jud Fry** *Oklahoma!* (Grange Park Opera); and **King** *Le Cid* (Dorset Opera).

In his native New Zealand, he has recently appeared as **Don Pizarro** Fidelio in concert with Auckland Philharmonia; as **Giorgio Germont** La traviata for Wellington Opera; and as **Judge Turpin** Sweeney Todd, **Giorgio Germont** and **Scarpia** in a new production of Tosca for New Zealand Opera.

Other operatic engagements include Alfio Cavalleria rusticana, Silvio Pagliacci, Renato Un ballo in Maschera, Mizgir The Snowmaiden, Father Hänsel und Gretel, Marcello La bohème, Aeneas Dido and Aeneas, Roucher Andrea Chénier (Opera North); Monterone Rigoletto, Malatesta Don Pasquale, Alfio Cavalleria rusticana, Silvio Pagliacci, Marcello La bohème, Geronimo Il matrimonio segreto, title role Il signore Bruschino, the title role in a new production of **Hohepa** and the title role in the world premiere of **Turpin** (New Zealand Opera); Older Man in Tansy Davies' Between Worlds (English National Opera); Conte di Luna Il trovatore and Scarpia Tosca (Dorset Opera); Grandfather Clock/Black Cat L'Enfant et les Sortilèges (Auckland Opera Factory); and Maori Chef/Captain Cook in Matthew Suttor and John Downie's Trial of the Cannibal Dog (Wellington Opera House). He has also covered title role Sweeney Todd (New Zealand Opera); and Gérard Andrea Chénier, **lago** Otello and **Balstrode** Peter Grimes (Opera North).

Rhodes was born in Hawke's Bay, New Zealand, where he graduated in 2004 with a Diploma in Arts and Voice. In 2008, he was awarded a scholarship to attend the Cardiff International Academy of Voice under the tutelage of Dennis O'Neill, where he remained for three seasons. In 2005 he won the Lexus Song Quest, bringing him to the attention of Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, who still maintains her interest in his career. Phillip acknowledges the support of the Kiri Te Kanawa Foundation.

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