

Phillip Rhodes

Baritone



"The lovely timbre of Phillip Rhodes's capacious baritone paradoxically conveyed every drop of Anckarström's bitter jealousy, his voice swelling generously, the phrases sailing with Italianate elegance."

Claire Seymour, Opera Today

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, most recently as the title role of **Macbeth**.

This season he returns to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as **Don Fernando** *Fidelio*, sings **Count Monterone** *Rigoletto* at Irish National Opera, **Giorgio Germont** *La Traviata* in concert with the Auckland Philharmonia, opera arias concerts with Welsh National Opera, and he returns to Opera Australia for **Escamillo** *Carmen*.

Recent highlights include **Giorgio Germont** *La Traviata* (Opera Australia, Scottish Opera); **Escamillo** *Carmen* (Royal Opera House, Opera North, Welsh National Opera, The Grange Festival, Scottish Opera); his role debut as **Figaro** *The Marriage of Figaro* (Opera North); **Monterone** *Rigoletto* (Royal Opera House); **Scarpia** *Tosca* (Nederlandse Reisopera); **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; and as **Giorgio Germont** *La traviata* and **Enrico** *Lucia di Lammermoor* for Wellington Opera.

Other operatic roles include **Alfio** *Cavalleria rusticana*, **Silvio Pagliacci**, **Renato/Count Anckarström** *Un ballo in Maschera*, **Mizgir** *The Snowmaiden*, **Father** *Hänsel und Gretel*, **Marcello** *La bohème*, **Aeneas** *Dido and Aeneas*, **Roucher** *Andrea Chénier* (Opera North); **Judge Turpin** *Sweeney Todd*, **Scarpia** *Tosca*, **Malatesta** *Don Pasquale*, **Marcello** *La bohème*, and the title role in a new production of **Hohepa** (New Zealand Opera); **Older Man** in Tansy Davies' *Between Worlds* (English National Opera); **Geronimo** *Il matrimonio segreto* (Opera Barga), **Conte di Luna** *Il trovatore* and **Scarpia** *Tosca* (Dorset Opera Festival); **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).

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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info@rayfieldallied.com