

# Thando Mjandana

Tenor



“My ear was also caught by a South African tenor Thando Mjandana in the tiny role of a biddable courtier: what a beautiful voice he has.”

Rupert Christiansen,  
*The Telegraph*

South African tenor Thando Mjandana is the Winner of the Samuel Coleridge-Taylor Award at the 2022 Voice of Black Opera Competition. He was a member of the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme Anniversary Company at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, where he appeared as **Odoardo Ariodante**, **Messenger Theodora**, **Philistine Samson et Dalila**, **Noble of Brabant Lohengrin** and **Gastone La traviata**.

In the 2023/2024 season, he makes his debut as **Jupiter Semele** (Blackheath Halls), competes in Operalia in Cape Town, South Africa, premieres a new Jonathan Dove work, *Odyssey*, and performs a selection of songs by Harrison Birtwistle and Daniel Kidane with the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group.

Recently, he created the role of **Caliban** in the world premiere of Georg Friedrich Haas' *Sycorax* for Theater Bern, appeared as **Policeman** and **Congregant** in *Blue* at Dutch National Opera, and sang the role of **Tamino The Magic Flute** for Welsh National Opera, **Nemorino** in *L'elisir d'amore* for Longborough Festival Opera, **Acis** *Acis and Galatea* and **Sailor Dido and Aeneas** (Waterperry Opera Festival).

He previously appeared at Dutch National Opera as **Nelson** and **Crab Man** *Porgy and Bess* and made his English National Opera debut as **Nelson**. At Cape Town Opera he has performed **Tamino The Magic Flute**, **Botshelo** in Sibusiso Njeza's *Blood of Mine* and **Chief** in Angelique Mouysis's *The Blue-Eyed Xhosa* and covered roles including **Pedrillo Die Entführung aus dem Serail** and **Count Libenskof Il viaggio a Reims**.

His repertoire also includes **Don Ottavio Don Giovanni**, **Beppe** in Donizetti's *Rita*, **Renzo** in Jonathan Dove's *The Little Green Swallow*, **Remendado** *Carmen* and **Don Basilio** *Le nozze di Figaro*, as well as **Count Almaviva** *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, scenes of which he has performed at the Royal Opera House as part of the the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme Summer Performance.

He trained at the University of Cape Town Opera School and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Competition successes also include reaching the final of Guildhall's Gold Medal in May 2021, and 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes at the Amawzwi Omzansi International Opera Competition.

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Valid for use until 1 August 2024  
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