
Callum Thorpe

Selected Reviews

Handel *Theodora* (Valens), Teatro Real Madrid (November 2024)

"The rest of the cast is excellent, the countertenor Iestyn Davies, the tenor Ed Lyon and the bass Callum Thorpe."
Alberto Bosco, *Il Corriere Musicale*

"...bass Callum Thorpe sang, who again in Madrid, plays a wonderfully evil Valens, very theatrical and with a lot of sound."
Monique ten Boske, *Opera Magazine NL*

"With a resounding and full-bodied voice, British bass Callum Thorpe took on the role of the Roman ambassador Valens."
María Pardo, *Opera World*

"And Callum Thorpe brought out the brutality of his character with force."
Manuel M. Martín Galán, *Scherzo*

Stravinsky *Oedipus Rex* (Tiresias), Scottish Opera, Edinburgh International Festival (August 2024)

"Callum Thorpe's doom-laden bass as Tiresias the stand-outs."
John McLellan, *Edinburgh Evening News*

"Callum Thorpe was outstanding as the blind prophet Tiresias, his rich authoritative bass reluctantly revealing that the Kings's murderer is a King"
David Smythe, *Bachtrack*

"The rich bass voice of Callum Thorpe as Tiresias..."
Catriona Graham, *The Opera Critic*

Handel *Aci, Galatea e Polifemo* (Polifemo), London Handel Festival (April 2024)

"Polifemo is the bass Callum Thorpe, his voice imposing in the villainous bluster and moving in his moments of despair."
Erica Jeal, *The Guardian*

"...or the astonishing, cavernous range of Callum Thorpe, who plays Polifemo. The famous aria in which Polifemo compares himself to a dying butterfly as he grieves for his loss of Galatea ranges over two and a half octaves, and Thorpe imbues it with a rich anguish that elicits unexpected pity."
Rachel Halliburton, *The Times*

"...and Callum Thorpe was absolutely thunderous as Polifemo – the air practically shook when he sang."
Richard Bratby, *The Spectator*

Weill *The Seven Deadly Sins*, London Philharmonic Orchestra (March 2024)

"...and the resonant bass Callum Thorpe as the drag Mother."
Erica Jeal, *The Guardian*

Schubert *Mass in A flat*, Scottish Chamber Orchestra (December 2023)

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"...and Callum Thorpe's bass-baritone was rich and authoritative."

Simon Thompson, *Seen and Heard International*

Purcell *Masque of Might* (Diktat), Opera North (October 2023)

"Callum Thorpe's forthright bass exuded authority and gravitas as Diktat, a commanding presence and a convincing hate-figure."

Martin Dreyer, *Opera Magazine*

"Callum Thorpe as Diktat, has a richly versatile range of tone and uses it with skill"

Robert Beale, *The Arts Desk*

"...and bass Callum Thorpe is on blistering form as the malevolent Diktat"

Sarah Noble, *The Guardian*

"The villain, a dictator imaginatively named Diktat (superbly sung by Callum Thorpe)"

Richard Morrison, *The Times*

"...with outstandingly stylish singing especially by Callum Thorpe as Diktat"

Nicholas Kenyon, *The Telegraph*

"Heroic bass Callum Thorpe fitted the part well, bringing to mind his appearance last year as the cut-throat Sparafucile, pure wickedness."

Richard Wilcocks, *Bachtrack*

Rossini *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (Basilio), Garsington Opera (June 2023)

"...Callum Thorpe's young fogey of a Basilio, whose "Calumny" aria is an excellent blast of bluster."

Neil Fisher, *The Times*

"Callum Thorpe as Basilio exuded a double-espresso vocal kick out of all proportion to the scale of his role."

Richard Bratby, *The Spectator*

"Callum Thorpe is a wryly enigmatic Don Basilio with his dry, deep bass voice and calm interpretation of the 'Calumny' aria making the part seem coolly calculating and almost sinister, rather than the oddball he Basilio is often made to be."

Curtis Rogers, *Seen and Heard International*

Donizetti *Maria Stuarda* (Lord Talbot), Irish National Opera (June 2022)

"Bass Callum Thorpe possesses a substantial, well-supported voice with an alluring timbre, into which he is able to inject pleasing subtleties, which he used with intelligence to add depth to the role."

Alan Neilson, *OperaWire*

Verdi *Rigoletto* (Sparafucile), Opera North (January 2022)

"...and Callum Thorpe a chillingly excellent Sparafucile."

Martin Kettle, *The Guardian*

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"Callum Thorpe as Sparafucile, the Duke's assassin is excellent, he invests the role with a suitably chilling mix of brooding menace and brutish thuggery."

Richard Hall, *The reviews hub*

"Callum Thorpe's Sparafucile was present for the opening scene, and Thorpe combined wonderful blackness of voice with threatening sense of stillness that compelled both ear and eye."

Robert Hugill, *Opera Today*

Beethoven *Fidelio* (Rocco), Glyndebourne Tour (October 2021)

"Callum Thorpe is a wholly authoritative and sympathetic Rocco, firm and focussed, assisting Leonore in her struggle"

Nicholas Kenyon, *The Telegraph*