

Mikolaj Zalasinski

Baritone

Graduated cum laude from the Academy of Music in Katowice. Vocal competitions laureate (among others: A. Didur and R. Grieg's). Jan Kiepura's award winner for the best opera singer of the year 2009. Amber Ring for Renato in *Un ballo in maschera*. Nominated by Opernwelt for his role of Scarpia in *Tosca* and for Macbeth in the 2010-2011 season. Highly acclaimed for his title roles of Macbeth, Nabucco and Rigoletto in G. Verdi's operas, and also of di Luna (*Il trovatore*), Iago (*Otello*), Renato (*Un ballo in maschera*), Don Carlo (*La forza del destino*), Amonasro (*Aida*), Germont (*La traviata*), Seid (*Il corsaro*), Don Carlo (*Ermani*). He was greatly appreciated for his parts of Don Giovanni, Eugene Onegin, King Roger, Carlo Gerard (*Andrea Chenier*), Scarpia (*Tosca*), Barnaba (*Gioconda*), Jochanaan (*Salome*). He is particularly known for his acting abilities and stage charisma.

The artist cooperates with Teatro La Fenice in Venice, Turin's Teatro Regio, Zurich Opera, Vienna's Kammeroper, Lisbon's Teatro Sao Carlos, Teatro Real in Madrid, New Israeli Opera in Tel Aviv, Teatro Lirico di Cagliari, The Slovak National Theatre, and also with opera theatres in Chicago, Wiesbaden, Berlin, Nuremberg, Wuppertal, Kaiserslautern, Kiel, Lausanne, Tokyo, Beijing, Warsaw, Prague, Sofia, Vilnius, Kiev. He was a guest of opera festivals in Bologna, Rome, Portimao, Trapani, Antikenfestspiele Trier, Mozart Festival Roubaix, Wratistavia Cantans. He gave concerts in the Berlin Philharmonic and the local Konzerthaus, the Abilene Philharmonic, the Cracow Philharmonic. He performed with the Harper Symphony Orchestra, Orquestra do Norte, l'Orchestre Liryque of Avignon-Provanse region, and Munich's Rundfunkorchester.

He cooperated with renowned conductors: Daniele Callegari, Cyril Diederich, Asher Fisch, Patrick Fournillier, Daniele Gatti, Valery Gergiev, Friedrich Haider, Jacek Kasprzyk, Kazimierz Kord, Gabor Otvos, Ewa Michnik, Tiziano Severini, Marcello Viotti, Omer Wellber. He performed in productions of the following directors: Laco Adamik, David Alden, Gilbert Deflo, Daniel Herzog, Immo Karaman, Denis Krief, Guy Montavon, Pier Luigi Pizzi, Jean-Pierre Ponnelle, David Pountney, Adam Hanuszkiewicz, Roberto Oswald, Mariusz Treliński, Krzysztof Warlikowski, Marek Weiss, Franco Zeffirelli, Michał Znaniecki.

His most important achievements include performances in Teatro Giuseppe di Stefano (as di Luna in *Il trovatore* and his title role of Rigoletto), Turin's Teatro Regio (as Escamillo in *Carmen*), in La Fenice in Venice (as Klingsor in *Parsifal*), New Israeli Opera in Tel Aviv (as Don Carlo in *La forza del destino*, Escamillo in *Carmen* and Jochanaan in *Salome*), in Abilene Opera in Texas (as Germont in *La traviata*), in The Grand Theatre – National Opera in Warsaw in the title role of King Roger at the gala premiere, opening the Polish presidency in the Council of the European Union. He also performed in Tokyo with Opera de Lausanne (as Escamillo in *Carmen*), in Dublin as Rigoletto, in Belfast as Nabucco, in Prague as Figaro in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, in Porto as Nabucco, in Sofia as Escamillo in *Carmen* and as Renato in *Un ballo in maschera*. He also cooperated with Teatro Real in Madrid (Krol Roger), Zurich Opera (Iago in *Otello*), Lisbon's Teatro Sao Carlos (di Luna in *Il trovatore*). He achieved great success in Nuremberg Opera in the title role of Macbeth, Nabucco, Rigoletto, and as Germont (*La traviata*), Carlo Gerard (*Andrea Chenier*), Riccardo (*I Puritani*), Seid (*Il corsaro*), Amonasro (*Aida*), di Luna (*Il trovatore*), as well as in The Grand Theatre – National Opera in Warsaw, especially in the title roles of Don Giovanni, Nabucco, Rigoletto, Krol Roger.

In the 2012/2013 season he won both public and critical acclaim for his first-night performances in Nuremberg Opera (in *Il trovatore* as di Luna and in *Andrea Chenier* as Carlo Gerard), and in The Grand Theatre – National Opera (in *Manon Lescaut* as Lescaut). He was given rave reviews for his guest performance for the audience of five thousand in Nabucco in Globus Hall by Musical Theatre

in Lublin, and also for his part of Don Carlo in the concert performance of Ernani opera with Munich's Rundfunkorchester broadcast by BR-Klassik Radio. The artist also appeared in Baltic Opera in Gdansk in the title role of Macbeth musically directed by Andriy Yurkevych.

In the 2013/2014 season he sang at Savonlinna Opera Festival with Welsh National Opera (as Lescaut in Manon Lescaut), in Nuremberg Opera (in the new production of Otello as Jago and as Scarpia in Tosca), in The Grand Theatre – National Opera in Warsaw (in the title role of Nabucco, as Rodrigo in Don Carlo – co-production with De Nederlandse Opera, as Robert in the premiere of Iolanta – co-production with The Metropolitan Opera and as the sword-bearer in Straszny Dwor).

He began his 2014/2015 season in the Wuppertal Opera House where he sang highly-acclaimed Scarpia in the new production of Tosca. He made his Teatro Lirico di Cagliari debut as Devil in the premiere of Cherevichki and also starred in The Slovak National Theatre as Rigoletto. He appeared as di Luna (Il Trovatore) in Vilnius City Opera and in the Grand Theatre Lodz. Other recent engagements include Nabucco in Pfalztheater Kaiserslautern, Macbeth in The Kiel Opera House, Tosca (Scarpia) in Baltic Opera in Gdansk, Un ballo in maschera (Renato), La traviata (Germont) and Krol Roger in Nuremberg Opera.

His future artistic plans involve performances in The Grand Theatre – National Opera in Warsaw (Rigoletto), in Baltic Opera in Gdansk (Tosca, Straszny Dwór), in Nuremberg Opera (Un ballo in maschera, Don Giovanni, Rigoletto) and in the Wuppertal Opera House (Yevgeniy Onegin and Tosca).

Recently with his participation R. Wagner's Parsifal (Teatro La Fenice) was released on CD and DVD by Dynamic.