

Jorma Silvasti, tenor

Due to his unique timbre and unusually wide repertoire Jorma Silvasti has been one of Europe's most remarkable tenors for many years. Born in Finland, Mr. Silvasti studied at the Savonlinna Music Institute, the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki and in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. He began his career in the chorus of the Finnish National Opera (1980-81) before joining the chorus of the opera in Frankfurt am Main.

In 1982, after winning the Timo Mustakallio Singing Competition in Savonlinna, Finland he was engaged as a soloist by the Krefeld-Mönchengladbach Opera in Germany. Three years later, he was appointed solo tenor at the Baden State Opera in Karlsruhe. Since 1991 he has been a member of the Finnish National Opera and also performs regularly at the Vienna State Opera and the Savonlinna Opera Festival.

His performances of Loge in the Finnish premiere of the *Ring* and as Laca in Janáček's *Jenufa* marked the transition to more dramatic parts in Mr. Silvasti's repertoire. Since then, he has performed as Loge (1998) and Erik (1999) at the Bayreuth Festival, as well as at the Deutsche Oper Berlin, the Berliner Staatsoper and the Hamburgische Staatsoper. Additional role debuts include *Freischütz* (Max), *Idomeneo* and *Parsifal* at the Monnaie in Brussels; *Peter Grimes* and Aulis Sallinen's *Lear* in Helsinki; *The Bartered Bride* (Jenik) at Covent Garden; Stoltzing in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, and Steva in *Jenufa*.

Mr. Silvasti made his U.S. debut in Los Angeles singing Kimmo in Aulis Sallinen's opera *Kullervo*, followed by performances of *Faust*. In 2004, Mr. Silvasti made his Metropolitan Opera debut singing the role of Boris for a revival of Leoš Janáček's *Kátja Kabanová* and returned to to sing the role of Laca in *Jenufa* in 2007.

Jorma Silvasti's concert repertoire extends from *Bach* and *Beethoven*, through *Mahler* to *Stravinsky*, and also includes contemporary composers. Today, he is a welcome guest in the world's opera houses and concert halls, performing on the stages of Amsterdam (*Euryanthe*), Berlin's Deutsche Oper (*Rheingold*) and Staatsoper (*Holländer*), the Royal Opera house in London (*Greek Passion*, *Jenufa*, *Sophie's Choice*), Paris Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Hamburg, Essen, Stuttgart, Tel Aviv, Toulouse, Tokyo, and Vienna (*Lulu*, *Jenufa*), to name but a few.

Recent Engagements (selection)

BILBAO - *Der Fliegende Holländer*

COVENT GARDEN - *Walküre*, *Wozzeck*

HELSINKI - *Yevgeni Onegin*. A.Sallinen, *Punainen viiva*

NEW YORK MET - *Katja Kabanova*, *Jenufa* (2007)

VIENNA STAATSOPER Janacek, *Osud*, *Boris Godunov* (2007), *Jenufa* (2009)

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Please disregard previously dated materials.