



## OREN GRADUS – Bass

Brooklyn-born bass Oren Gradus is rising in recognition and critical acclaim throughout North America and Europe as a brilliant basso cantante.

Most recently he was seen at the Metropolitan Opera as Basilio in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and Raimondo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*. Since his debut at the Met during the 2002-2003 season, Mr. Gradus has sung well over one hundred performances with the company. His many roles there include Giorgio in *I Puritani*, Timur in *Turandot*, the Old Hebrew in *Samson et Dalila*, the King in *Aida*, and Garibaldo in *Rodelinda* opposite Renée Fleming. He has also starred in six productions of “The Met: Live in HD series”: as Colline in *La Bohème* (twice), Douglas in *La Donna del Lago*, Publio in *La Clemenza di Tito*, Wallace in *La Fanciulla del West*, and Le Duc de Vérone in *Roméo et Juliette*.

In the past few seasons Mr. Gradus made several important steps: his house debut with Washington National Opera and Semperoper Dresden as Henry VIII in *Anna Bolena*; his house and role debuts with Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona as the four villains in *Les Contes d’Hoffmann*; his house debut with Canadian Opera Company Toronto as Raimondo; his house and role debuts with Opéra d’Avenches in Switzerland as Zaccaria in *Nabucco*; and his house and role debut with Opéra de Lausanne as Oroveso in *Norma*.

Among his many distinguished performances with some of the leading opera companies in the U.S. and in Europe, he has sung the roles of Leporello in *Don Giovanni* (San Francisco Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Opéra de Marseille); Figaro in *Le Nozze di Figaro* (Houston Grand Opera, Opéra de Marseille, Seattle Opera, Pittsburgh Opera); Raimondo (San Francisco Opera, Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Houston Grand Opera, Teatro Municipal de Santiago); Enrico VIII (Dallas Opera); Zaccaria (Lyric Opera Baltimore); Mephistopheles in *Faust* (Pittsburgh Opera); Ramfis in *Aida* (Terme di Caracalla in Rome, Pittsburgh Opera); Timur in *Turandot* (Houston Grand Opera); Escamillo in *Carmen* (New Orleans Opera); Ferrando in *Il Trovatore* (ABAO de Bilbao, Atlanta Opera); Il Re di Scozia in *Ariodante* (Houston Grand Opera); and Prince Gremin in *Eugene Onegin* (Houston Grand Opera, Pittsburgh Opera and Opera Theater of St. Louis).

During the 2015-2016 season Mr. Gradus had the opportunity to perform with Boston's critically acclaimed Odyssey Opera in two rarely heard works: as Don Diègue in Massenet's *Le Cid* and the title role in Ralph Vaughn Williams' *Sir John in Love*. For the latter he was nominated for Boston's Best Male Operatic Performance of the Year (Arts Impulse Magazine). During the same season he returned to Pittsburgh Opera as Zaccaria and made his Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra debut as the Pater Profundus in *Mahler's 8th Symphony*.

Mr. Gradus studied music at the Oberlin Conservatory and then joined the Pittsburgh Opera Center. He subsequently became a member of the Houston Grand Opera Studio during which time he sang and recorded the role of El Capitán in Daniel Catán's *Florencia en el Amazonas*. He later returned to Houston Grand Opera for the world premiere of Catán's *Salsipuedes* as Capitan Magallanes.

Recently he performed in *La fanciulla del West* and *Tosca* at Metropolitan Opera New York.

Due to the pandemic emergency he could not perform Oroveso in *Norma* at Pittsburgh Lyric Opera.

He will be Commendatore in *Don Giovanni* at North Carolina Opera In Raleigh in January 2023.

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Melos Opera S.r.l. – Via Caselle 76 – 40068 San Lazzaro di Savena (Bo) – Italia  
[info@melosopera.com](mailto:info@melosopera.com) – [www.melosopera.com](http://www.melosopera.com) – tel. +39 051 455 395  
Cap. Soc. € 10.000 i.v. – Cod. Fisc. e P.Iva: 03640741207 – REA BO-535118