CHARLES CASTRONOVO - *tenor*

Acclaimed internationally as one of the finest lyric tenors of our time, Charles Castronovo has performed at the world's leading opera houses including Royal Ballet & Opera London, Opéra National de Paris, Metropolitan Opera, Staatsoper Berlin, Wiener Staatsoper, Teatro Real in Madrid, San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Salzburg Festspielhaus and many more. After gaining international recognition for such roles as Edgardo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Alfredo in *La traviata* and Mozart's tenor roles, in recent seasons he has moved into a heavier repertoire, such as the French repertoire with *Faust*, Roméo in *Roméo et Juliette* and Don Josè in *Carmen*, Rodolfo in *La bohème*, Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*, Riccardo in *Un ballo in Maschera*, Adorno in *Simon Boccanegra*, the title roles of *Don Carlo* and *Ernani*, Cavaradossi in *Tosca*.

Among the many highlights of recent seasons are the title role of *Don Carlos* at Grand Théâtre de Genève and at Opéra National de Paris; Don José in *Carmen* at Royal Ballet & Opera London; *Simon Boccanegra* at Teatro alla Scala and at Opéra National de Paris; Riccardo in *Un ballo in maschera* at Metropolitan Opera, Opernhaus Zürich and Bayerische Staatsoper; *La bohème* at Opéra National de Paris; Cavaradossi in *Tosca* at Bayerische Staatsoper; Pinkerton in Damiano Michieletto's production of *Madama Butterfly* at Teatro Real de Madrid; Le Chevalier des Grieux in Massenet's *Manon* at Palau de les Arts in Valencia; *La traviata* at Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona; Ruggero in *La Rondine* at the Deutsche Oper Berlin and in concert at Opéra de Monte-Carlo; Jason in the French version of Cherubini's *Médée* at Staatsoper Berlin under the baton of M°Daniel Barenboim; *Manon* and *Madama Butterfly* at Wiener Staatsoper; the title role of *L'amico fritz* at Maggio Musicale Fiorentino; Macduff in *Macbeth* at Salzburg Festival; *Ernani* with Munich Radio Orchestra, Max in *Der Freischütz* at Théâtre des Champs-Elysées.

Charles Castronovo debuted Verdi's *Messa da Requiem* at Semperoper Dresden with the Staatskapelle Dresden and Christian Thielemann, then he sang it also with Myung-whun Chung, Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Daniel Harding.

Born in New York and raised in California, Charles Castronovo began his career as a resident at Los Angeles Opera, then he joined the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artists Development Program and made his debut on the Metropolitan Opera stage as Beppe opposite Placido Domingo in the opening night performance of *Pagliacci*.

His European stage debut was at the 2000 Savonlinna Festival as Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*, he subsequently debuted in Germany at the Staatsoper Berlin with the same role under M° Daniel Barenboim, in France at the Théâtre du Capitole de Toulouse as Fenton in *Falstaff*, and in the United Kingdom at the 2002 BBC Proms in Ravel's *L'heure Espagnole*. In the 2003/04 season, Castronovo made his San Francisco Opera, Opéra National de Paris, and Wiener Staatsoper debuts as Tamino *Die Zauberflöte*, and his Covent Garden debut as Ferrando in *Così fan tutte*. This was followed by his Italian stage debut as Alfredo at Teatro Carlo Felice in Genoa.

He has participated often in performances of lesser-known works: as Mylio in Lalo's *Le Roi d'Ys* in Toulouse; as Vincent in Gounod's *Mireille* at Opéra National de Paris; in Massenet's *Thérèse* at the Festival de Montpellier, where he also sang Lalo's *La Jacquerie*; Gounod's *Cinq Mars* at Theater an der Wien. Castronovo starred opposite Plácido Domingo as Mario in the world premiere of Daniel Catan's *Il Postino* at the Los Angeles Opera, a role he also performed in Paris and Santiago. He also recorded Mercadante's *Virginia* for Opera Rara.

LATEST PERFORMANCES: *Carmen* at Palau de les Arts Velencia, at Bayerisch Staatsoper and at Teatro Real de Madrid; *Werther* (title role debut) at NTT Tokyo; *Carmen Simon Boccanegra* at Wiener Staatsoper; *Un ballo in maschera* at Staatsoper Berlin; *Roméo et Juliette* with Orchestre National de France; *Macbeth* at Salzburg Festival.

FORTHCOMING PROJECTS: *Un ballo in Maschera* at Royal Ballet & Opera London; *Tosca* in Athens and at Opernhaus Zurich; Gounod's *Faust* at Bayerische Staatsoper; Berlioz' La damnation de Faust with HR-Sinfonieorchester in Frankfurt, Hamburg and Vienna; *Carmen* at Wiener Staatsoper; *Adriana Lecouvreur* at Palau de les Arts Velencia; *Madama Butterfly* at Bayerische Staatsoper and at Metropolitan New York.

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