

Rudolf Schasching

Tenor



Rudolf Schasching was born in Engelhartzell (Upper Austria) and got his first musical education as choirboy in the abbey of St. Florian. Afterwards he studied voice at the University of Music in Vienna with Hilde Roessel-Majdan which he graduated from in 1983.

After first engagements at the Vienna Kammeroper he came to the Staatstheater Saarbrücken, where he has been singing in over fifty roles of the heroic tenor as well as of the character tenor for twenty years (e.g. Loge, Siegmund and Siegfried in Wagner's Ring, but also Parsifal, Tannhaeuser, Lohengrin, Fliegende Holländer, Titus, Idomeneo, Max, Herodes, Bacchus and Laca). In 1996 he sang - in Saarbrücken, too - the three tenor roles in the cycle "Zweite Wiener Schule" (Second Vienna School): Aron in Schoenberg's Moses und Aron, Alwa in Berg's Lulu and Tambourmajor in Wozzeck.

As guest he performed at numerous important European stages, e.g. Vienna State Opera, Gran Teatro del Liceu, Opera Bastille, Amsterdam, Salzburg, Glyndebourne, Bregenz, and Zurich in the roles of Zsupan, Herodes, Tambourmajor, Galizyn, Aegisth, Erik among many others). In Zurich, where he has been ensemble member since 2000, he worked together with conductors such as Claudio Abbado, Riccardo Chailly, Leopold Hager, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Jiri Kout, Lorin Maazel, Christoph von Dohnanyi, and Franz Welser-Moest.

Past engagements include the part of Herodes at Opernhaus Zürich under the baton of Maestro Dohnanyi, as well as the same part with the Cleveland Orchestra and Wienerstaats Oper Japan tour under maestro Welser-Möst, Monostatos at the Salzburger Festspiele under the baton of Maestro Harnoncourt.

Recent engagements include Valzacchi in Rosenkavalier at Salzburger Festspiele as well as Iro in Il ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria at the opera houses in Zürich and Darmstadt.

Rudolf Schasching performed in concerts as well - and toured in London, Luxemburg, Prag, Sofia, and Tokyo. Numerous CD and radio recordings document his long and successful career (e.g. Beethoven's Ninth Symphony and Strauß' Gypsy Baron, both with Nikolaus Harnoncourt). In 2003 he was named Kammersänger by the Kultusminister of Saarland.

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