



## MICHAEL BACHTADZE, BARITONE

Native Georgian baritone Michael Bachtadze has just finished a new production of *PÉLLEAS ET MÉLISANDE/Golaud* at the Teatro Regio di Parma and is in preparation of his debut at the Den Jyske Opera for the role of *Amonasro* in Verdi's *AIDA*. In the past month he has had a couple of cancellations, amongst others his debut for the role of *Paolo* in Verdi's *SIMONE BOCCANEGRA* at the Deutsche Oper Berlin, where he had been covering *Don Carlo de Vargas* in Verdi's *LA FORZA DEL DESTINO* End of 2019. During the summer 2020 he sang the title role of Verdi's *NABUCCO* in a new production at the Festung Ehrenbreitstein (open air).

In the 18/19 season he had been reinvented to the ROH in London to cover Tomskij/*PIQUE DAME*, to sing Germont/*LA TRAVIATA* in Hannovers acclaimed production, directed by Benedikt von Peters and alongside Nicole Chevalier with DVD production as well as for a revival of *NABUCCO* at the Staatstheater Saarbrücken. He also had his first collaboration with Nicholas Carter at the Theater in Klagenfurt, where he took over the role of *Golaud* in *PELLEAS ET MELISANDE*. This production was not only very much in the spotlight as the costumes were designed by Christian Lacroix, but won also the „Grand Prix de la Critique“ for the best production of the year after the opening at the Theatre des Cahamps.Elysées. He ended the season with a concert version of *PARSIFAL/Amfortas* under the baton of Stephen Sloane.

Before he made his debut at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden in London as *Michele* in *IL TABARRO* under the baton of Maestro Nicola Luisotti, where he was also covering the title role of *GIANNI SCHICCHI* for Lucio Gallo. After this collaboration Lucio Gallo invited him to participate in a recording of *FALSATFF* as *Ford* he was doing with Sony Classic in Croatia.

In the summer 2015 he had mainly worked in Italy. After his successful Italian debut as *Mercutio* in Gounods *ROMEO ET JULIETTE* in the summer 2013 at the prestigious festival at Arena di Verona, Michael Bachtadze was reinvented to sing the same role in the summer 2014 alongside Vittorio Grigolo

and 2015. The other Italian Festival he worked at was the Taormina Festival in Sicily, where he performed *Escamillo/CARMEN* alongside Elena Maximova. The opening of this production was broadcast on HD live streaming worldwide. The season 2015/16 continued with a revival of Tchaikowskis *PIQUE DAME/Tomskij* in Innsbruck, *Marcello/LA BOHEME* in Brigitte Fassbaenders staging, the mentioned London contract and more. In 2014/15 he had a great success in Innsbruck/Austria in the new production of Cileas *ADIRANA LECOUVREUR/Michonnet* under the baton of Francesco Angelico (where the opera was told as Michonnets dream, a production that won two Austrian Theatre Prizes), sang a production of *LA TRAVIATA/Germont* and another new production in Innsbruck/Austria (Tchaikowskis *PIQUE DAME/Tomskij*).

*Alfio* and *Tonio* in *CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA/ PAGLIACCI*, *Ezio* in *ATTILA*, *Renato/UN BALLO IN MASCHERA*, *Enrico /LUCIA DI LAMMERMOORE* and Tchaikowskis *PIQUE DAME/Tomskij*, the latter at the Staatstheater Braunschweig alongside Dame Gwyneth Jones, were on his schedule before. In a new production of Wagners *PARSIFAL* in Coburg he was casted to sing *Klingsor* and *Amfortas* the very same evening. He got to sing the role of *Amfortas* also at Staatstheater Chemnitz under the baton of Guillermo Garcia-Calvo.

In concert version he sang very successfully *Escamillo/CARMEN* with the MDR Orchestra (radio) in Leipzig (Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk), which was broadcast and *Amonasro/AIDA* in a Gala concert alongside Karine Babajanyan and Thomas Hampson at Staatstheater Hannover under the baton of Iván Repusic.

In the 2013/14 season he gave three noteworthy house debuts, including one of his much acclaimed roles, *Escamillo* in Bizets *CARMEN* at Deutsche Oper Berlin, *Marcello* in Puccinis *BOHEME* at Oper Leipzig and *Créon* in Cherubinis *MEDEA* in Innsbruck/Austria.

Future projects include - beside the mentioned *AIDA* in Denmark - a new production of Leoncavallos *I PAGLIACCI* and Hameriks *LA VENDETTA* at the Den Jyske Opera on one evening and later the postponed new production of *SIMONE BOCCANEGRA* at Deutsche Oper Berlin.

Michael Bachtadze graduated from his hometown Conservatory at Tbilisi/Georgia, followed by supplement studies in Germany where he is based since then. While he was still in University he was invited to sing many concerts in Georgia as well as throughout Europe, including England (London; Royal Albert Hall), France, Norway (Bergen; Grieg - Hall), Germany (Berlin), Switzerland and Austria.

He began his professional career as a member of Theater Bielefeld singing roles from the bass-baritone repertoire, and had outstanding successes there in roles such as Figaro/*LE NOZZE DI FIGARO* in the opening production of the renovated opera house, Ruslan in Glinkas *RUSLAN UND LUDMILLA*, whose premiere was broadcasted live on Deutschlandradio Kultur, Golaud/*PELLEAS ET MELISANDE*, Lord Sidney/*IL VIAGGIO A REIMS*, Wurm/*LUISA MILLER* and *Amonasro/AIDA*. All together there he sang more than 25 roles.

Since he successfully made the change to the baritone repertoire he has sung major roles in many opera houses in Europe. His main repertoire includes such as Giorgio Germont/*LA TRAVIATA* (Verdi), Renato/*UN BALLO IN MASCHERA* (Verdi), (both of which he prepared with the remarkable Giorgio Zancanaro), Ford/*FALSTAFF* (Verdi), Don Carlo/*LA FORZA DEL DESTINO* (Verdi), Jago/*OTELLO* (Verdi), Marcello/*LA BOHEME*, Michele/*IL TABARRO*, Gianni Schicchi (Puccini), Robert/*IOLANTA*, Tomskij/*PIQUE DAME* (Tchaikowski), *DON GIOVANNI* (Mozart), Enrico/*LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR* (Donizetti) and *Escamillo/CARMEN* (Bizet). The latter he sang in a new production for the Berliner Seefestspiele 2012, directed by Oscar awarded Volker Schlöndorff, of which the premiere was broadcast on the ARTE TV in France and Germany.

He appeared in a variety of German Opera Houses as guest artist, among others in Deutsche Oper am Rhein/Düsseldorf, Nationaltheater Mannheim, Oper Halle, Staatstheater Wiesbaden, Landestheater Coburg, Theater Heidelberg, Oper Leipzig, Pfalztheater

Kaiserslautern, Staatsoper Hannover and Oper Köln. His debut at Semperoper Dresden was the premiere of IOLANTA (Tschaikowski) under the baton of Vladimir Jurowski and was celebrated by the audience as well as by the critics. This also led to an invitation to sing there *Marcello/LA BOHEME* there. Internationally he has appeared in Opera Houses in Switzerland, Norway, Austria, Denmark, Georgia, Poland and Italy.

Michael Bachtadze is winner of the "International Open Opera Gesangswettbewerb" 2012 (Berlin). He has been awarded with the Operntaler 2007 for his outstanding achievements and was nominated in „Kritikerumfrage NRW 2007 – Musiktheater“ as the best male newcomer/vocal (theater pur 07/08 2007).

He has sung in concert with Orchestras including Bochumer Symphoniker, Bayerisches Rundfunkorchester München, Orchester des Mitteldeutschen Rundfunks Leipzig, Münchner Symphoniker and worked with great conductors in concerts and operas, amongst others Daniel Oren, Nicola Luisotti, Alexander Joel, Vladimir Jurowski, Jan-Letham Koenig, Guillermo Garcia-Calvo, Ivan Repusic, Keri-Lynn Wilson, Alexander Kalajdzic, Marc Piollet, Dirk Kaftan, Kevin Edusei, Karl-Heinz Steffens, Alexander Vedernikov, Jacques Delacôte, Cornelius Meister and Marko Letonja.

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