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SERGIO MARTINEZ

BASS

Colombian bass Sergio Martinez has been praised nationally and internationally for his charismatic stage presence and voice of “cavernous resonance and...power” (*OnStage Pittsburgh*). As a member of Washington National Opera’s distinguished Cafritz Young Artist Program, Mr. Martinez received extensive acclaim as a featured performer in both their American Opera Initiative and mainstage productions, most notably for his portrayals of Frère Laurent in ***Romeo et Juliette*** and Baloo in Kamala Sankaram and Kelly Rourke’s ***The Jungle Book***.

This season, Mr. Martinez joins the Metropolitan Opera roster covering Lodovico in ***Otello*** and Angelotti in ***Tosca***. He’ll also début with Boston Lyric Opera as Walter Furst in ***William Tell***, Austin Opera as Palémon in ***Thaïs***, Annapolis Opera as Sparafucile in ***Rigoletto***, and Berkshire Opera as Alidoro in ***La Cenerentola***. Last season, Mr. Martinez made house débuts at Virginia Opera as the King of Egypt in ***Aida*** and Opera Southwest in ***Dolores***. He also returned to The Glimmerglass Festival to sing the roles of Sagrestano in ***Tosca*** and Papa Cordero in their premiere of ***The House on Mango Street***.

Mr. Martinez recently made several company débuts across the country, joining Des Moines Metro Opera as the Second Soldier in ***Salome***, portraying Zuñiga in Detroit Symphony Orchestra’s production of ***Carmen***, and joining the Spoleto Festival to sing the role of Palémon in ***Thaïs***. In addition, he portrayed the role of Osvaldo in Washington National Opera’s AOI presentation of ***Tati***, a new commission by Kyle Brenn and Lex Brown. Mr. Martinez’s other notable engagements as a Cafritz Young Artist at Washington National Opera include a Look-In performance of Banquo in ***Macbeth***, in addition to appearances as the Judge Advocate General in the world premiere of ***Grounded*** and the Innkeeper/Ox in ***The Lion, Unicorn, and Me***. Moreover, his engagements at The Glimmerglass Festival include Frère Laurent in ***Romeo et Juliette***, Zuñiga in ***Carmen***, and covering Don Petronio in ***Tenor Overboard***. Mr. Martinez’s repertoire further includes roles like Sparafucile in ***Rigoletto***, Basilio in ***Il Barbiere di Siviglia***, Collatinus in ***The Rape of Lucretia***, Colline in ***La Bohème***, and Theseus in ***A Midsummer Night’s Dream***.

In 2023, Martinez composed, produced, and performed his first opera in four acts entitled ***¡Dime!*** in collaboration with librettist Bailey Merlin. In addition, Martinez recently premiered three of his newest compositions: ***Mestizaje*** (mezzo-soprano and piano), ***Mundane*** (bass voice, electronics, and piano), and ***Canciones Campesinas*** (bass voice and piano).

Mr. Martinez graduated with his MM from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. During his time in Illinois, Martinez was the recipient of the Stotler Fellowship, the Golden Lyre Award, and the Sara de Mundo Lo Award. Mr. Martinez also graduated with his MMA in opera from Yale University, where he was awarded the prestigious Phyllis Curtin Award. He also received first prize and the Linus Lerner prize at the first international singing competition of Colombia.

