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JONNY KAUFMAN

TENOR



Tenor Jonny Kaufman possesses a voice of entrancing power, beauty, and finesse, which he employs with considerable technique and musicianship. In their review of Kaufman's portrayal of Pinkerton in ***Madama Butterfly***, *BroadwayWorld* makes it clear why Kaufman is quickly ascending the ranks as one of the greatest tenors of his generation: "...Kaufman, as Pinkerton, has a voice so grand — even heroic — that there are many times when, lost in the glory of that voice, we quite forget what a cad the Lieutenant is. Superb!"

Last season, Mr. Kaufman made his role début as Samson in ***Samson et Dalila*** with St. Petersburg Opera, which he also covered for New Orleans Opera. He returned to Opera Carolina to sing Don José in ***Carmen***, and he joined Fort Worth Symphony to sing the Steersman and cover Erik in ***Der fliegende Holländer***. He also sang Canio in ***Pagliacci*** with Union Avenue Opera and joined North Carolina Opera to cover the title role in ***Ernani***. In concert, he sang Obadiah in ***Elijah*** with Charlotte Master Chorale, and he joined The Choral Arts Society of Washington for Beethoven's ***Ninth Symphony***. This season, Kaufman sings the title role in ***Faust*** with Opera Western Reserve, he returns to St. Petersburg Opera to reprise Rodolfo in ***La bohème***, and he brings his lauded Don José to ***Carmen*** productions with Charleston Opera Theater and San Diego Opera. He also joins the Firelands Symphony in concert.

Recently, Kaufman returned to Opera Carolina for their productions of ***Cavalleria rusticana*** and ***Madama Butterfly*** as Turiddu and Pinkerton, respectively, and he sang Don José in Opera Western Reserve's ***Carmen***, following his house début as Rodolfo in ***La bohème***. He also sang Rodolfo with Opera Grand Rapids and the Northern Lights Music Festival, as well as Cavaradossi in ***Tosca*** with Opera Wilmington, which he also covered with Opera Carolina. Kaufman made his house début at New Orleans Opera as Pinkerton in ***Madama Butterfly***, and he returned to Winter Opera St. Louis to sing Macduff in ***Macbeth***. He also joined the Cleveland Pops and Western Piedmont Symphony for concerts of lighter fare and Western Piedmont Symphony and Aiken Symphony Orchestra for festive holiday concerts.

Kaufman returned to Opera Wilmington for ***Viva Italia!*** as part of their summer concert series ***Under the Stars***; he joined the company of Douglas Tappin's ***I Dream*** in a new co-production between Opera Carolina and Charlottesville Opera; and he returned to Opera Carolina for their ***Bella Notte*** and ***Opera Hits*** concerts. He made débuts with Winter Opera St. Louis in both their fall gala and as Pinkerton in ***Madama Butterfly***; with the Aiken Symphony Orchestra in their romantic concert ***Amore! Famous Love Songs from the World of Opera***, in concert with River City Opera, and with Charlotte Symphony Orchestra as part of their ***Opera Masterpieces*** concert.

Previous engagements included débuts with Opera Delaware in their ***Fall Jukebox*** concert and with Toledo Opera and Opera Carolina as Malcolm in ***Macbeth***. Additionally, Kaufman made appearances and performed with Opera Experience Southeast as Pinkerton in ***Madama Butterfly***; as Rodolfo in ***La bohème*** with Opera Wilmington, Central Piedmont Opera Theater, and Little Opera Company of Charlotte; Alfred in ***Die Fledermaus*** with Little Opera Company of Charlotte; Turiddu in ***Cavalleria rusticana*** with Repertory



Opera Theater of Washington D.C.; as Tamino in ***Die Zauberflöte*** with State Opera Varna, marking his international début; and as Rinuccio in ***Gianni Schicchi*** with Opera Lancaster.

Kaufman was a finalist in both the Giulio Gari and The Jensen Foundation competitions, as well as being named the Winner of the Jennifer White Memorial Award in Shreveport Opera's Mary Jacobs Smith Singer of the Year competition. He was the winner of the Second-Place prize in the SAS Performing Arts Company Vocal competition, winner in NYIOP's first-ever Anonymous Audition Project, and a finalist in the NOA Carolyn Bailey and Dominick Argento Vocal Competition.

Current as of November 12, 2025