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GORDON HAWKINS

BARITONE

Gordon Hawkins is critically acclaimed throughout the world for his in-depth interpretations and lush baritone voice. A dramatic baritone with an international reputation as a “Rigoletto specialist,” Mr. Hawkins has delighted audiences as the tragic Verdi underdog in more than 200 performances, most recently with the Deutsche Oper am Rhein, Vancouver Opera, Washington National Opera, Arizona Opera, and Opera Colorado. He is now earning critical acclaim as a Wagner specialist: “Alberich was superbly realized by baritone Gordon Hawkins, in his [Los Angeles Opera] début. Despite wearing a grotesque puppet head and clunky boots that hobbled his movements, Hawkins delivered a sterling vocal characterization of the power-mad Nibelung.” (*Opera News*). He has been engaged as Alberich in Wagner’s ***Der Ring des Nibelungen*** at esteemed international companies including San Francisco Opera, Los Angeles Opera, Seattle Opera, Washington National Opera, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Teatro de la Maestranza de Sevilla, and the BBC Orchestra at Royal Albert Hall in London.



Last season, Mr. Hawkins returned to Arizona Opera to sing Benoit and Alcindoro in ***La bohème***. In addition, Mr. Hawkins recently created the role of the Reverend in the world premiere of Jeanine Tesori and Tazewell Thompson’s ***Blue*** at The Glimmerglass Festival, which received rave reviews. He also recorded the piece with Washington National Opera, with critic Ralph P. Lock saying, “The one big name in the cast is Gordon Hawkins, a world-renowned Porgy, Rigoletto and Alberich, who here establishes a rock-solid presence as The Reverend.” He reprised the role with Detroit Opera, Toledo Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, Seattle Opera, and most recently with New Orleans Opera.

Other recent engagements include his role début as Alphonse in ***Frankenstein*** with Arizona Opera, Tonio in ***Pagliacci*** with San Antonio Opera, and his return to the Lyric Opera of Chicago for the world premiere of ***Proximity***, a project he assisted in creating during its workshop.

Mr. Hawkins’ career is shaped by performances of opera’s most popular baritone roles at leading companies throughout the world. With an impressive repertoire under his belt, some of Mr. Hawkins’ prominent roles include: Amonasro in ***Aida***, which he has performed with Lyric Opera of Chicago, Washington National Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Seattle Opera, Cincinnati Opera, Detroit Opera, and The Atlanta Opera; Scarpia in ***Tosca*** with Cincinnati Opera, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Vancouver Opera, Portland Opera, and Arizona Opera; ***Nabucco*** with Seattle Opera and Opera Carolina; and ***Macbeth*** also with Seattle Opera. Additional favored engagements have included Thoas in ***Iphigénie en Tauride*** with The Metropolitan Opera; The Warden in ***Dead Man Walking*** with Lyric Opera of Chicago; Alvaro in ***Florencia en el Amazonas*** with Los Angeles Opera; Alfio in ***Cavalleria rusticana*** with Washington National Opera; Conte di Luna in ***Il trovatore*** with Seattle Opera; Tonio in ***Pagliacci*** with Arizona Musicfest; and Renato in ***Un ballo in maschera*** with New Orleans Opera and Opéra de Montréal.



Internationally, Mr. Hawkins has performed at venues such as Deutsche Oper Berlin as Telramund in **Lohengrin**, Teatro de la Maestranza in Seville as Caspar in **Der Freischütz**, and New National Theatre Tokyo as the Villians in **Les contes d'Hoffmann**.

One of his signature roles, Porgy in Gershwin's **Porgy and Bess** has brought him to some of the most esteemed companies and symphonies in the world, including the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Washington National Opera, Seattle Opera, Detroit Opera, The Dallas Opera, Cincinnati Opera, Toledo Opera, Colorado Symphony, San Francisco Symphony, San Francisco Opera, Jacksonville Symphony, Festspillene i Bergen in Norway, and the Sinfonieorchester St. Gallen.

An accomplished concert artist, some favorite engagements of recent seasons include a gala concert for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg in Washington DC; a recital entitled **War and Remembrance** at The Clarice Center for the Performing Arts; Amonasro in **Aida** with St. Louis Symphony; Vaughan Williams' **A Sea Symphony** with The Washington Chorus at the Kennedy Center; the world premiere of Jake Heggie's **A Great Hope Fell** with the Eos Orchestra of New York; Beethoven's **Symphony No. 9** with The Atlanta Symphony and St. Louis Symphony; concert selections from American musicals with Welle WDR 4 in Cologne, Germany; and additional repertoire with the Chicago Symphony, National Symphony, the Baltimore Symphony, Cincinnati Symphony, National Theatre Orchestra of Prague, and Vienna Symphony.

Mr. Hawkins has been heard on the Live BBC Radio broadcast as Alberich in **Götterdämmerung** with the BBC Symphony Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall and "Live from the Metropolitan Opera" broadcasts earlier in his career as Marcello in **La bohème** with Plácido Domingo and Mirella Freni and Silvano in **Un ballo in maschera** with Luciano Pavarotti and Aprile Millo. He can be heard as George Milton on the first recording of Carlisle Floyd's **Of Mice and Men** with the Houston Grand Opera on Albany Records and the recording of **Simon Boccanegra** as the title role with the New Zealand International Festival of the Arts.

Mr. Hawkins was a winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and the Luciano Pavarotti International Vocal Competition, and he was awarded the Washington National Opera's "Artist of the Year" award.

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