



## **RUSSELL THOMAS**

tenor

A native of Miami, Russell Thomas has recently completed his final season as a member of The Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and is quickly establishing himself on the international opera and concert scene. In the 2005/06 season the tenor covered Tamino and performed the 1st Prisoner in *FIDELIO* at the MET, and returned to the Seattle Symphony for Mozart's *C-MINOR MASS*, as well as the finale of Strauss's *IDOMENEO*. Other appearances include the Sultan in Mozart's *ZAIDE* at the Vienna Festwochen, The Barbican Center in London, and Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival in a new Peter Sellars production. The tenor continues his collaborations with Sellars at the New Crowned Hope Festival in Vienna where he will premier John Adams's *A FLOWERING TREE*, a production that leads to debuts with the Berlin Philharmonic and San Francisco Symphony. Other appearances in 2006/07 include Chamber Music Society Lincoln Center concerts, a debut with Michigan Opera Theatre in *ROMEO ET JULIETTE*, as well as concerts and recitals in NYC and Miami with Ken Noda. During the 2003/04 Season Mr. Thomas performed Orff's *CARMINA BURANA* with the Yakima Symphony Orchestra, Ernesto in *DON PASQUALE* with Spokane Opera, and appeared in recital in NYC, Miami, and Manchester, VT. In the 2004/05 Season he made his MET debut as the Herald in *DON CARLOS* and covered Tito in Mozart's *LA CLEMENZA DI TITO*. Other appearances that season included debuts with the Seattle Symphony and Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival and a summer at the Marlboro Music Festival where he will return in 2006 to perform Mozart's *IDOMENEO*. In 2006 he was awarded 1st Place at the Liederkrantz Competition as well as the George London Foundation Competition and received a major award from the Lee Schaefer Foundation. In 2005 he was a winner in the Young Concert Artist Competition, George London Foundation Competition, and the Loren L. Zachary Society Competition, as well as 1st place winner of the 2004 Licia Albanese Puccini Foundation Competition.

Mr. Thomas has performed and trained with Florida Grand Opera (Roderigo in *OTELLO*, Mayor Upfold in *ALBERT HERRING*, Ivan in *Wargo* s *THE MUSIC SHOP*, Male Chorus in *THE RAPE OF LUCRETIA*), Seattle Opera (Tamino in *THE MAGIC FLUTE* and Rodolfo in *LA BOHEME*), Tulsa Opera (Nemorino in *Lâ ELISIR Dâ AMORE*, Borsa in *RIGOLETTO*, Ruiz in *IL TROVATORE*, Janicku in *Janacek* s *DIARY OF ONE WHO VANISHED*), as well as Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Sarasota Opera, Shreveport Opera, Yakima Symphony Orchestra, Opera North, Aspen Summer Music Festival and Union Ave Opera Theatre. Other roles include Don Ottavio in *DON GIOVANNI*, Cavaradossi in *TOSCA*, Faust in Gounodâ s *FAUST*, Mitridate in Mozartâ s *MITRIDATE, RE DI PONTO*, and Edgardo in *LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR*.

Other notable appearances include his 2001 Tulsa Philharmonic debut with Simon Estes in a benefit for the Simon Estes Foundation, Handelâ s *MESSIAH* with the New Jersey Symphony, Rossiniâ s *STABAT MATER* with Florida Grand Opera Chorus, and the U.S. Premier of Lorenzitti's *MESSE A GRANDE SYMPHONIE* with the Miami Bach Society. Mr. Thomas also recorded Thomas Sleeperâ s *ACELDAMA: FIELD OF BLOOD* for Albany Records.

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