

KIP WILBORN, tenor

American tenor Kip Wilborn has enjoyed a career that has flourished in both North America and Europe. Versatile and accomplished in the classical repertoire, his credits as a leading operatic tenor include engagements in opera houses such as San Francisco Opera, Opéra National de Paris, New York City Opera, Seattle Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Cleveland Opera, Cincinnati Opera, San Diego Opera, Volksoper Vienna, Trieste's Teatro Giuseppe Verdi, Essen's Aalto Theater, Berlin's Theater des Westens, Dublin Grand Opera, and Wexford Festival. Favorite roles within his repertoire include Cavaradossi in *TOSCA*, Pinkerton in *MADAMA BUTTERFLY*, Calaf in *TURANDOT*, Pelléas in *PELLÉAS ET MÉLISANDE*, Don José in *CARMEN*, Turiddu in *CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA*, and Siegmund in *DIE WALKÜRE*.

On the concert stage, he has performed as a soloist with various orchestras, including the Baltimore Symphony, American Symphony Orchestra (at Alice Tully Hall), Utah Symphony, Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra, Russian Philharmonic Orchestra of Moscow, Theater im Pfalzbau Orchestra, Lehar International Orchestra, and Irish Radio Symphony. His oratorio repertoire includes Mozart's *REQUIEM*, Beethoven's *NINTH SYMPHONY* and *MASS IN C*, Handel's *MESSIAH*, Mendelssohn's *SAINT PAUL*, and Verdi's *REQUIEM*.

Recent engagements for Mr. Wilborn have included: Rienzi in Wagner's *RIENZI* (under the stage direction of Katharina Wagner) with Theater Bremen, Germany; Siegmund in a new production of *DIE WALKÜRE* with Hawaii Opera Theater; Calaf in *TURANDOT* with the Chorus Pro Musica-Boston; Pinkerton in *MADAMA BUTTERFLY* with the Vienna Volksoper, Arizona Opera, Hawaii Opera Theater and Minnesota Opera; Don José in *CARMEN* with Connecticut Opera and Opern Air Gars, Austria; Tom Rakewell in a new production of *THE RAKE'S PROGRESS* with Teatro Giuseppe Verdi, Trieste, Italy; Hoffmann in *LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN* with the Cleveland Opera and Stadttheater Baden Bei Wien, Austria; Luigi in *IL TABARRO* with Hawaii Opera Theater; Turiddu in *CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA* with New York City Opera, Connecticut Opera, and Stadttheater Giessen, Germany; Cavaradossi in *TOSCA* with Opera Pacific and Opern Air Gars; Rodolfo in *LA BOHÈME* with the Cincinnati Opera and Aalto Theater, Essen, Germany; the Duke in *RIGOLETTO* with Aalto Theater, Essen; and Symon in *DER BETTELSTUDENT* with the Stadttheater Baden bei Wien, Austria.

Mr. Wilborn has appeared on European television and on commercial DVD in the title role of *DER BETTELSTUDENT*. Other DVD and broadcast credits include the starring role of Sam Kaplan in the award-winning film of Kurt Weill's *STREET SCENE*, which was broadcast on the Bravo and Arte television networks. His debut solo CD, *BE MY LOVE*, with the Moravian Philharmonic (on the Sam 'n' Rose Records label), garnered Mr. Wilborn a Surround Music Awards nomination for the best new artist of 2005.

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Wagner

Die Walküre

Siegmund

Hawaii Opera Theater

Rienzi

Rienzi

Theater Bremen, Germany

Puccini

Turandot

Calaf

Chorus Pro Musica, Boston

Tosca

Cavaradossi

Opera Pacific

Madama Butterfly

Pinkerton

Opern Air Gars am Kamp, Austria

Volksooper Wien

Minnesota Opera

Hawaii Opera Theater

Arizona Opera

Il Tabarro

Luigi

Hawaii Opera Theater

La Boheme

Rodolfo

Cincinnati Opera

Verdi

Otello

Otello

Stadttheater Gießen,

Germany

Mascagni

Cavalleria Rusticana

Turiddu

New York City Opera

Connecticut Grand Opera

Stadttheater Gießen

Bizet

Carmen

Don Jose

Connecticut Grand Opera

Opern Air Gars am Kamp, Austra

Eutiner Festival, Germany

Offenbach

Les Contes d'Hoffmann

Hoffmann

Cleveland Opera

Stadttheater Baden bei Wien

Debussy

Pelleas et Melisande

Pelleas

Seattle Opera

Stravinsky

The Rake's Progress

Tom Rakewell

Teatro Verdi Trieste, Italy

film, television, recording:

Der Bettelstudent, Symon, for ORF 2008

Street Scene, Image Entertainment, Sam, Best Musical Film, Amsterdam Widescreen Festival, Bravo, Arte, Classical Arts Showcase

Be My Love, Solo CD, sam n rose records 2005

REVIEWS

Chorus closes season in grand, albeit scaled-down, style

by Matthew Guerrieri, Boston Globe Correspondent / June 3, 2009

Puccini's protagonists verge on forces of nature; both respective soloists embraced that larger-than-life aspect. Kip Wilborn, making his Boston debut, sang Calaf with unremitting bravado, braving Turandot's riddles as much for competitive thrill as amorous reward. ...Calaf's steamroller confidence was entertainingly palpable.

Turandot (Chorus Pro Musica)

by Ed TapperEDGE Contributor / Tuesday June 2, 2009

...The cast assembled for Sunday's performance was uniformly first-rate, one that would not fail to impress in any of the world's major opera houses. As the heroic Calaf, who nearly loses his head over the mysterious princess, tenor Kip Wilborn was excellent. Like that of Graham's, Wilborn's full-throated sound was scaled for a venue much larger than Jordan Hall. With its baritone color, his voice was secure in the low register. His thrilling high notes rang through the hall with trumpet-like clarity. His *Nessun Dorma* was nicely realized and very well received.

Carmen

American Tenor Kip Wilborn was a fantastic Don José with a ringing top.

– *Gars am Kamp, Austria*

Connecticut Opera's "Carmen" sets and meets its usual high standards

Tenor Kip Wilborn, who sang the role of Don José, emoted feelings clearly with every utterance; he acted superbly, had strong stage presence and generally sang up a storm to the delight of the audience. His Don José was bombastic and thrilling to hear.

– *OperaOnline, USA*

Boheme

Kip Wilborn is a tenor to die for. At least the audience at Knoxville Opera's opening performance of Giacomo Puccini's "La Boheme" thought so after Wilborn's Rodolfo endured the death of Mimi, his true love.

- Knoxville News-Sentinel

CD Baby Review of “Be My Love”

Did you ever have a teacher in high school or college who had such a gift for teaching that you’d take any class they taught, even if it was brain surgery, just to be in their presence? Kip Wilborn reminds me of that scenario; the purity and clarity of his voice is so remarkable that I’d do everything I could to hear him sing, whether it was classical, jazz, reggae or polka. He clearly has the passion, the inspiration and the talent which he cradles and supports with his training and craft. Be My Love features popular favorites to beloved opera gems, each delivered with equal conviction and artistry, drawing from the greatest strengths of his voice and showcasing his superb musicianship. This is truly a beautifully presented album.

other press

Tenor Kip Wilborn’s voice is gorgeous and clear throughout its range.

-Madison

Kip Wilborn did an excellent portrayal of Sam. The tenor received a tremendous amount of applause at the conclusion of the opera. His strong and dramatic voice kept the opera moving- (Street Scene)

– Houston Chronicle

“Wilborn negotiated the most difficult passages with ease.”

– Seattle, WA

“Wilborn’s Tenor was clear and dramatic, growing stronger throughout the night.”

- New York

“...a handsome hunk, who sang with both sensitivity and power”

- Lake George, NY

“...the most beautiful Pelleas I’ve ever heard”

– Seattle, WA

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