

# Biography

# Eric Shaw

Eric Shaw has established an international reputation through performances at a number of renowned musical centres. From Wexford to Lincoln Center to Tanglewood and Genoa he has been lauded for “singing and acting with fluent ease and charm” (Michael Kennedy, Sunday Telegraph, London, UK). Heard in New York with Botstein and the American Symphony Orchestra in Schumann’s DAS PARADIES UND DIE PERI at Lincoln Center, he was in Toronto for the World Premiere of Chan Ka Nin’s THE WEAVING MAIDEN for Soundstreams, in ROMÉO ET JULIETTE as Tybalt for Opera Ontario and at the Sugar Creek Festival of Song in the U.S. for Ramiro in LA CENERENTOLA. He sang the Evangelist in Bach’s MATTHAUS PASSION with the Victoria Symphony and Ramiro in LA CENERENTOLA at Teatro Massimo Bellini in Catania.

In 2007-2008, he debuted with the National Chorale in New York in DIE SCHÖPFUNG and sang Rossini’s PETITE MESSE SOLENNELLE for the Grand Philharmonic Choir (Kitchener-Waterloo) and the Bach Elgar Choir of Hamilton. As well, he reprised his role in DIE DREI PINTOS for Toronto’s Opera in Concert, sang Bach’s Passions in Toronto and Peterborough, and appeared for Manitoba Opera in JASON AND HANNA. His 2008-2009 schedule includes performances with the Vancouver Island Symphony, Regina Philharmonic Chorus, and the Guelph Chamber choir singing works of Beethoven, Handel and Bach.

Engagements also included Mozart’s REQUIEM for the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, MESSIAH for the Elora Festival Singers and Okanagan Festival Choir and a return to the Wexford Festival for Donizetti’s RITA and Haydn’s DIE SCHÖPFUNG. As well he was featured in DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE by Toronto’s Opera Atelier and Schafer’s THE PALACE OF THE CINNABAR PHOENIX for Patria Music Theatre.

Eric debuted at the Wexford Festival as Gaston in DIE DREI PINTOS by Weber/Mahler (recording later released by Naxos) and returned for Claudio in Braunfels’ PRINZESSIN BRAMBILLA, also a Naxos release. His Italian debut came in Bologna in Schubert’s DIE FREUNDE VON SALAMANCA and further performances in Italy have included the title role

in CANDIDE in Genoa. At Tanglewood he created the role of Philip the Handsome in RAGE D'AMOUR and he returned to Lincoln Center with Botstein and the American Symphony Orchestra singing the role of Tum Tum in Hindemith's DAS NUSCH NUSCHI. In Canada Mr. Shaw appeared as the White Stag in the World Premiere of R. Murray Schafer's THE ENCHANTED FOREST. The Jubilee Hall was the scene of his debut at the Aldeburgh Festival where he was featured as Lysander in Britten's A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

Mr. Shaw was chosen for the Calgary Opera's production of Weill's SEVEN DEADLY SINS and further recent engagements have included Idreno in Rossini's SEMIRAMIDE for Opera in Concert, MESSIAH in Hamilton, Ontario, CARMINA BURANA for the Victoria Symphony, Nanki Poo in MIKADO for Toronto Operetta Theatre and Bach's ST. JOHN PASSION with the Fanshawe Chorus of London, Ontario. He has also appeared with Opera Lyra Ottawa, Pacific Opera Victoria, the Grand Philharmonic Choir and in Bangor, Maine, singing Orff, Handel, Johann and Richard Strauss and Bach. Past seasons have been highlighted by IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA with the Kingston Symphony, Puccini's MESSA DI GLORIA with the Hamilton Philharmonic and Bach's MAGNIFICAT for the Melos Ensemble in Kingston. The McGill University graduate was also heard as Leo in the Canadian operetta, LEO THE ROYAL CADET for the Toronto Operetta Theatre and was engaged by Utah Opera for Almaviva in IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA, St. Brioche in MERRY WIDOW and Bardolfo in FALSTAFF. Other roles include Le Pecheur in LE ROSSIGNOL, Little Bat in Floyd's SUSANNAH, Ralph in H.M.S. PINAFORE, Inkslinger in PAUL BUNYAN, Frederic in PIRATES OF PENZANCE and Belfiore in LA FINTA GIARDINIERA. He has appeared in Mozart's MASS IN C MINOR with the Amadeus Choir of Toronto and on radio in CREATION, MESSIAH, and JUDAS MACCABAEUS.

Over the last 20 years, Mr. Shaw has been building a career in teaching music. He obtained a Bachelor of Education from the University of Toronto (OISE) and is currently in demand as a clinician and classroom teacher at the Toronto District School Board as well as at community choirs such as Serenata Singers and Bel Canto Singers. Eric has also adjudicated for various prestigious music festivals such as the Porcupine Music Festival in Timmins and Mississauga Contemporary Showcase. In addition, he has stage directed

several operatic and music theatre productions both in Canada and the US. He maintains a busy vocal studio in downtown Toronto and served on Provincial Council of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association (ORMTA).