

Edward Nelson Baritone



Winner of the 2020 Glyndebourne Opera Cup, American baritone Edward Nelson is quickly establishing himself as one the most exciting singers of his generation. An alumnus of both the Merola Opera Program and the Adler Fellowship at the San Francisco Opera, Edward has made over 70 appearances on the stage of the War Memorial Opera House. In his final season as an Adler Fellow, he sang mainstage performances of Malatesta in *Don Pasquale*, Yamadori in *Madama Butterfly*, plus roles in the world premiere of *Dream of the Red Chamber*, and has since returned as the Bosun in *Billy Budd*.

In the 2023/24 season Edward makes his debut at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées as Dandini in Damiano Michieletto's production of *La Cenerentola* and returns to the Semperoper Dresden for the same production. In the US, he returns to the Washington National Opera for Francesca Zambello's production of Offenbach's *La Périchole*. Edward's most recent company debuts include the Metropolitan Opera in a new production of Terence Blanchard's *Champion*, and at the Teatro Real in the title role of Phillip Glass' *Orphée*.

Further operatic engagements in North America include the Barber in Strauss' *Die schweigsame Frau* at Bard Summerscape, his debut at Opera Philadelphia in *Ne Quittez Pas: A Reimagined 'La voix humaine,'* in which he performed songs of Francis Poulenc alongside Patricia Racette, *Il Barbierie di Siviglia* at the Vancouver Opera, the title role in *Don Giovanni* at Palm Beach Opera, Maximillian in *Candide* at the Washington National Opera, the Count in *Le nozze di Figaro* at the Detroit Opera, the title role in *Hamlet* at West Edge Opera, Schaunard in *La Bohème* at Cincinnati Opera, and a staged performance of Schubert's *Die schöne Müllerin* at Chicago's Harris Theater, in collaboration with Jessica Lang Dance.

Edward made his European debut at the Norwegian National Opera as the title role in a new production of *Pelléas* et *Mélisande* and later returned to the company as Dandini *La Cenerentola* and Figaro *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. He also made his debut in Spain at the Ópera de Oviedo as Pelléas and recently debuted at the Teatro de la Maestranza in Seville in the same role.

Edward made his Carnegie Hall debut with the American Symphony Orchestra in Vaughan Williams' Sea Symphony and Kurt Weill's Four Walt Whitman Songs. He also sang Sea Symphony with the Milwaukee Symphony and has performed Carmina Burana with the Mobile Symphony, appeared in a recital of Schubert lieder at the Four Arts Society in Palm Beach, and sang both Schaunard in La Bohème and Papageno in The Magic Flute with the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra at Boston's Symphony Hall.

Edward is a decorated international vocal competitor. In addition to winning the 2020 Glyndebourne Cup, he was a finalist and encouragement award winner in Operalia 2021 at the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow. He was awarded Third Prize at the

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2021 Ottavio Ziino Competition in Rome, is the recipient of grants from the Gerda Lissner Foundation and the Shoshana Foundation, and was a National Semi-Finalist in the 2013 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

A native of California, Edward is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and received further training at the Tanglewood Music Center.

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