

Malte Roesner

Bass

German-American basso cantante, Malte Roesner, was born in New York in 1979. His musical interest developed early in life, when he began violin lessons at the age of five. As a member of the Hanover Boy's Choir in Germany, he was able to make his first solo appearances as a vocalist, both in concert and on the operatic stage. Malte Roesner studied at the University of Hamburg and at the Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media; majoring both in musicology and in opera performance. He furthered his vocal education with Prof. Irwin Gage's lied-class, Bruno Pola's master-class in Lugano (Switzerland) and with KS Carlos Álvarez in Sevilla (Spain). Today, he works with Paulette Vineyard-Herbig in Vienna (Austria) and with vocal coach Mats Knutsson at the Vienna State Opera, with whom he recently transitioned to bass repertoire after having sung as a baritone.

Mr. Roesner, an alumnus of the German National Academic Foundation, was the recipient of the Richard-Wagner-Foundation scholarship twice, in 2012 for his portrayal of Friedrich in the early Wagner opera *Das Liebesverbot* and again in 2014; a distinction which attests to his vocal capacity and superior style of performance. In a review of his Papageno in Mozart's *Zauberflöte*, the Braunschweiger Zeitung wrote in January 2012 about his "softly grounded bass-range and dignified baritone-lines" and the magazine *Opernwelt* 3/2010 declared him a "virile, darkly timbered baritone". In additional reviews, he is attributed with a "melodiously beautiful baritone" (*Die Zauberflöte*, Braunschweiger Zeitung, October 2011), a "warm, full sound" (*Zaïde*, Braunschweiger Zeitung, June 2010), a "strong voice and secure top" (*Freischütz*, Orpheus, November 2010), a "supremely flexible baritone" (*Orlando Paladino*, Der Opernfreund, June 2009) and with being "cultivatedly powerful" (*Lohengrin*, Online Musik Magazin, 2007).

From 2005 to 2015, he was a member of the ensemble at the Brunswick National Theater in Germany, where he has portrayed more than fifty roles. In addition to most of the important Mozart roles his operatic repertoire as a baritone included: Enrico in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Belcore in *L'elisir d'amore*, Ping in *Turandot*, Schaunard in *La Bohème* and Sharpless in *Madama Butterfly*, Dr. Falke in *Die Fledermaus*, Paolo in *Simone Boccanegra*, Heerrufer in *Lohengrin*, Nick Shadow in *The Rake's Progress* and Masaniello in the German premiere of A. Carlos Gomes' *Salvator Rosa*. Prior to singing Ford in Verdi's *Falstaff* at the Brunswick National Theater, he had already embodied the role with striking success at the Castle Festival Wernigerode in 2006. Further festival appearances included an engagement as Escamillo in *Carmen* in Stuttgart, Germany. In the fall of 2011 he portrayed Ottokar in Weber's *Freischütz* at the Schleswig-Holstein State Theater in Rendsburg and in the summer of 2012 Friedrich in Wagner's *Das Liebesverbot* at the South-Thuringian National Opera in Meinigen, Germany; both roles which he had previously sung in Brunswick.

In the world premiere of the operatic version of Schnitzler's *Traumnovelle* by Alex Nowitz he sang the male lead Fridolin and in the opening production for the 14th Munich Biennale for New Music Theater he sang the role of Marco Polo in Marco Nikodijevic's opera *Vivier. Ein Nachtprotokoll*.

In the productions of Jake Heggie's *For a Look or a Touch* (Manfred) and Jonathan Dove's *Mansfield Park* (Edmund Bertram) Mr. Roesner was not only involved as the male lead, but he also wrote the German translations. The German Version of *Mansfield Park* is currently awaiting publication at Edition Peters.

His portrayal of Joe Gillis in the musical *Sunset Boulevard*, his first major musical role, was highly critically acclaimed in the specialized German press.

Mr. Roesner's lied and art-song repertoire span the works of Schumann, Wolf and Haydn to those of Ibert, Mahler and Copland. In his most recent recitals, he presented the song-cycle *Die schöne Magelone* by Brahms in Zurich (Switzerland), and *songs of death* by Schubert, the *Hölderlin-*

Gesänge by Fortner and the *Neue Alexanderlieder* by Rihm. In the ballet *Schattengänger* at the Brunswick National Theater, he appeared as a vocal soloist performing Schumann's *Liederkreis op. 39*, *Dichterliebe* and *Kerner-Songs*.

In concert, Mr. Roesner has performed e.g. the *Christmas Oratorios* by Bach and Graun in Bad Königshofen, the *Musikalischen Exequien* and the *St. John's Passion* by Schütz in Hanover, Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* and *A Survivor from Warsaw* by Schönberg in the Brunswick Cathedral, the *Te Deum* and the *Mass in D* by Dvořák in the Imperial Cathedral Königslutter, Haydn's *Nelson-Mass* and Rutter's *Mass of the Children* in Stuttgart and Orff's *Carmina Burana* in the historic castle-square in Brunswick.