ANDREW FOSTER-WILLIAMS

Bass-Baritone

Andrew Foster-Williams possesses a vocal versatility that allows him to present

repertoire ranging from the classics of Bach, Gluck, Handel and Mozart through to

more recent masters such as Britten, Debussy, Wagner and Stravinsky on both the

opera stage and concert platforms alike.

Andrew Foster-Williams’ career, initially built on his strong Baroque credentials, has in recent seasons moved towards more dramatic repertoire with successes as

Pizarro (*Fidelio*) at Theater an der Wien and Philharmonie de Paris, and an

unanimously praised debut as Telramund in Wagner’s *Lohengrin* under esteemed

conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin at the Festival de Lanaudière. A subsequent

portrayal of Captain Balstrode in Christoph Loy’s divisive production of *Peter*

*Grimes* at Theater an der Wien, alongside acclaimed performances as Nick Shadow

(*The Rake’s Progress*) and Gunther (*Götterdämmerung*) have further enhanced an

already highly regarded operatic profile. Other recent role debuts as Lysiart in

Christof Loy’s staging of *Euryanthe* at Theater an der Wien under Constantin Trinks

and as Kurnewal in *Tristan und Isolde* at La Monnaie under Alain Altinoglu highlight a dramatic capacity that has earned the respect of many stage directors as he “holds

the attention of the audience with the energy of someone who has great experience,

and with sensational vocal ability, which he uses with total freedom…” (*Opéra*).

Opera performances in the current season include his role debut as Mr Flint (*Billy*

*Budd*) at the George Enescu Festival under Hannu Lintu, and Donner (*Das*

*Rheingold*) conducted by Alain Altinoglu in the first instalment of Roman Castelluci’s

new presentation of *Der Ring des Nibelungen* at La Monnaie.

Praised for his facility in the French operatic repertoire, recent roles include Golaud

(*Pelléas et Mélisande*) and specially curated performances at Opéra National de

Bordeaux to mark the 400th anniversary of the death of Cervantes featuring music

from Ravel’s *Don Quichotte à Dulcinée* and Massenet’s *Don Quichotte* under Marc

Minkowski. Andrew Foster-Williams made his house debut at Opernhaus Zürich in

2021 as the Four Villains in Andreas Homoki’s setting of *Les contes*

*d’Hoffmann* under Antonino Fogliani, roles he since has reprised in a new production at Gothenburg Opera and in Barrie Kosky’s fantastical staging at Komische Oper Berlin.

As a regular guest on the Opéra français series of the Palazzetto Bru Zane label, CD

releases include Joncières’ *Dimitri*, Gounod’s *Cinq-Mars*, Saint-Saëns’ *Proserpine*,

and Gounod’s *Faust*, winner of the Opera of the 19 th  Century category at the Opus

Klassik 2020 awards.  Boasting an extensive discography, other commercial releases

include Beethoven’s *Cantata on the Death of Emperor Joseph II* with San Francisco

Symphony (Tilson Thomas) on SFSMedia, and *The Seasons* with Gabrieli Consort

Players (McCreesh) released on Signum and shortlisted for the 2017 Grammophone

Awards. Performances captured on DVD include the Gramophone Award

winning *The Fairy Queen* with Glyndebourne Festival Opera (Christie).

An impressive line-up of concert invitations has taken Andrew Foster-Williams to

some of the most celebrated orchestras and conductors of our day. These include

the Cleveland Orchestra/ Franz Welser-Möst, Salzburg Mozarteum/Ivor Bolton, San

Francisco Symphony/Michael Tilson Thomas, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra/

Richard Egarr, Hong Kong Philharmonic/Edo de Waart, Gulbenkian Orchestra/Lorenzo Viotti and the Sibelius Festival/Dalia Stasevska. Foster-Williams

offers a concert repertoire as diverse as it is broad which includes Bach’s *St John*

*Passion*, Britten’s *War Requiem*, Schönberg’s *Gurrelieder*, Janáček’s *Glagolitic*

*Mass* and Mahler’s Eighth Symphony. Concert highlights this season include *Messiah* with Orquesta Sinfonica de Castille y Leon (Egarr), Brahms’ *Ein*

*deutsches Requiem* with Houston Symphony Orchestra (Valčuha), *St Matthew*

*Passion* with Netherlands Chamber Orchestra (Bolton) and Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony with Lahti Symphony Orchestra (Stasevska).