JOHN TESSIER, Tenor

On the international stages of opera, concert, and recital, Canadian John Tessier garners praise and attention for the beauty and honesty of his voice, a refined style and creative versatility, and his handsome presence in the lyric tenor repertoire.

During the 2024-25 season John Tessier returns to Edmonton Opera to sing Alfred in a new production of *Die Fledermaus* directed by Artistic Director Joel Ivany and conducted by Music Director Simon Rivard and he joins Calgary Opera as Ernesto in *Don Pasquale* directed by Stefania Panighini led by Jacques Lacombe. He also appears with the Calgary Philharmonic and Music Director Rune Bergmann in a presentation of the Mozart Coronation Mass in C Major, K. 317.

Last season John Tessier bowed at his home company, Edmonton Opera, as Don Ottavio in Mozart’s classic *Don Giovanni* as directed and with a new English libretto by Joel Ivany. Concert appearances included the world premiere of the Jonathan Leshnoff oratorio, *Sacrifice of Isaac* with Robert Spano and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, programs of Bach and Mozart with the Richard Eaton Singers, and the world premiere of *Ukrainian War Requiem*, written by two-time Grammy nominee Benedict Sheehan, with Axios Men’s Ensemble, Pro Coro Canada, and musicians from across North America and Ukraine under the baton of Michael Zaugg.

Highlights of past opera seasons include productions of *Il barbiere di Siviglia,* *La fille du Régiment*, and *I Puritani* at the Wiener Staatsoper, a debut at Teatro alla Scala in a new production directed by Sir David McVicar of Cavalli’s *La Calisto* led by Christophe Rousset, a role debut as Steve Wozniak in Mason Bates’ *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs* at Calgary Opera, *Die Fledermaus* in a fully-staged production at the Seiji Ozawa Music Academy with Diego Matheuz leading the Saito Kinen Orchestra, and Cherubini’s *Médée* at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées conducted by Christophe Rousset in a new production by Krzysztof Warlikowski.

Additional appearances on leading international opera stages include *Les pêcheurs de perles* and *Maria Stuarda* led by Carlo Montanaro at Seattle Opera, a new Jonathan Miller production of *The Elixir of Love* at English National Opera and the New York City Opera, *Il barbiere di Siviglia* with New Zealand Opera, and both a role debut as Massenet’s *Werther* and his acclaimed portrayal of Prince Ramiro in Rossini’s *La cenerentola* for Manitoba Opera.

His vibrant concert schedule included performances of Handel’s *Messiah* with the Victoria Symphony Orchestra, Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Mendelssohn *Elijah* with the Richard Eaton Singers, and Berlioz’ *Roméo et Juliette* with the Taiwan Philharmonic.

John Tessier gave the world première of Robin de Raaff’s *Waiting for Miss Monroe*at the Netherlands Opera and has sung *Der* *fliegende Holländer* under the baton of Jeffrey Tate at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, and *Don Giovanni* for a South American debut at the Teatro Colón conducted by John Neschling. He also has bowed in *The Merry Widow* at Vancouver Opera and in Rossini’s comic masterpiece *Le comte Ory* with Edmonton Opera.

On the concert stage, the tenor has been heard in performances of Bach’s *St. Matthew Passion* with Iván Fischer and the Orchestra of St. Luke’s at Carnegie Hall, Rossini’s Stabat Mater and Schumann’s *Scenes from Goethe’s Faust* with the Cleveland Orchestra under the direction of Franz Welser-Möst, Mozart’s Requiem with Hervé Niquet leading the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, Mendelssohn’s *Elijah* both with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and the Charlotte Symphony, and *Carmina Burana* with Marin Alsop and the Baltimore Symphony. Other concert appearances feature Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony with Paavo Järvi and the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, Haydn’s “Mass in the Time of War” with Bernard Labadie and the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, and Berlioz’ Te Deum under the direction of Charles Dutoit at the Philadelphia Orchestra.  He has sung Handel’s *Messiah* with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, and with Emmanuelle Haïm and Le Concert d'Astrée on tour in Vienna, Paris, Frankfurt, Cologne, and Milan.

John Tessier’s extensive recording catalogue includes Mozart’s Requiem both with Sir Donald Runnicles and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and with Bernard Labadie and Les Violons du Roy, John Corigliano’s *A Dylan Thomas Trilogy* with Leonard Slatkin and the Nashville Symphony, Stephen Paulus’ *To Be Certain of the Dawn* with Osmo Vänskä and the Minnesota Orchestra, Leonard Bernstein’s *A Quiet Place* with Kent Nagano and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, and Haydn’s *The Creation* with Dame Jane Glover leading Music of the Baroque.