



Colin Aikins, Tenor

Colin Aikins, heralded tenor from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, possessing "command and fervor in the voice" (NPR, Philadelphia), is a member of the International Opera Studio of the Staatsoper Hamburg. During the 2026-27 season highlights of a very dynamic schedule include a role debut as Malcom in a new production of *Macbeth* directed by Tobias Kratzer conducted by Tomáš Hanus, Rodolphe in a new production of *Guillaume Tell* staged by Tobias Kratzer led by Susanna Mälkki, Basilio in Stefan Herheim's production of *Le nozze di Figaro* under the baton of Omer Meir Wellber, and Arturo in a revival of *Lucia di Lammermoor*.

The young tenor made his debuts last season at Seattle Opera and at the Glimmerglass Festival as Timothy Laughlin in *Fellow Travelers* – one of the most frequently performed new operas of the past decade adapted by composer Gregory Spears and librettist Greg Pierce from the Thomas Mallon novel recently released as a Showtime mini-series – in collaboration with New York-based artistic collective Up Until Now, staged by director Kevin Newbury. During his first season with the Staatsoper Hamburg, Colin Aikins bowed in productions of *Salome* and *Lohengrin* conducted by Music Director Omer Meir Wellber, *Il trovatore* led by Matteo Beltrami, and *Ariadne auf Naxos* under the baton of Johannes Debus.

Colin Aikins made a role debut as Prologue/Peter Quint in a new production of Britten's *The Turn of the Screw* at Juilliard Opera directed by Mary Birnbaum led by Zachary Schwartzman. Past appearances under the auspices of Juilliard Opera also included *Gianni Schicchi*, *Later the Same Evening* by John Musto and Mark Campbell in a production directed by Alison Moritz and conducted by Joseph Colaneri, and concert performances of Purcell's *King Arthur* with Lionel Meunier leading Juilliard415.

A committed recitalist, he has collaborated with Brian Zeger at Juilliard Songfest, with Steven Blier and the New York Festival of Song, and with Pierre Vallet in Liederabend.

Highlights of recent seasons include a role debut as Alfredo in performances of *La traviata* with City Lyric Opera, Fenton in *Falstaff* with the Aspen Opera Center, and many performances with Curtis Opera Theater including *Albert Herring*, *Dangerous Liaisons*, *Highway 1 USA*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Trouble in Tahiti*.

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Graduated from The Juilliard School with a Master's degree in Vocal Performance under the tutelage of William Burden and a recipient of the prestigious Toulmin Foundation Scholarship, Colin Aikins earned his Bachelor's degree at the Curtis Institute of Music studying with Julia Faulkner. He has been recognized with numerous awards including the 2023 Schwab Vocal Rising Star, the 2021 Hal Leonard Vocal Competition, a 2018 Vocal Finalist in the National Young Arts Competition, and a 2018 NPR From the Top Finalist. He now studies in Hamburg with Chris Merritt.

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