

BEN WAGER is a 2009 graduate of the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia, where his roles included Raimondo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Enrico in *Anna Bolena*, the title role in Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Sparafucile in *Rigoletto*, Don Alfonso in *Così fan tutte* and Padre Guardiano in *La forza del destino*.

Wager's 2011–12 season includes dual appearances with Minnesota Opera, as General Audebert in the world premiere of *Silent Night* and Raimondo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*. He returns to the Oregon Symphony as the bass soloist in Haydn's *Creation* and makes his debut with Opera Boston as Capellio in *The Capulets and the Montagues*. Future seasons will include a return to Opera Company of Philadelphia and a new production with Kentucky Opera.

Last season, he made debuts with Opera Cleveland as Nourabad in *The Pearl Fishers* and Dallas Opera as Masetto in *Don Giovanni*; he appeared as Hindley Earnshaw in Bernard Herrmann's *Wuthering Heights* with Minnesota Opera. A member of the ensemble of the Deutsche Oper Berlin since 2009, he appeared as Panthus in *Les Troyens*, Doctor Grenvil in *La traviata*, Angelotti in *Tosca* and Escamillo in *Carmen*, among other roles.

During a residency at the Academy of Vocal Arts, engagements included roles as Enrico in *Anna Bolena*, Il Vescovo in *La fiamma*, Raimondo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Kaspar in *Der Freischütz*, Gremin and Zaretsky in *Eugene Onegin* and Basilio in *The Barber of Seville*; he was bass soloist in Mozart's Mass in C Minor.

Notable engagements include roles as Monterone in *Rigoletto* and Der Sprecher in *The Magic Flute* with Opera New Jersey, Masetto in *Don Giovanni* for his debut at Chicago Opera Theater, Collatinus in *The Rape of Lucretia* with Opera Company of Philadelphia and Julian Pinelli in Schreker's *Die Gezeichneten* with Los Angeles Opera. He appeared in Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with the Mozarteum of Salzburg.

In 2008, Wager was a member of the prestigious Merola Opera Program at San Francisco Opera, where he sang the role of Il Commendatore in Catherine Malfitano's production of *Don Giovanni*.