

For more than 20 years, **Richard Leech** has been singing many of the most demanding and well-known roles of the Italian and French repertoire, both on disc and on the stages of the world's leading opera houses. Of his much anticipated 1989 debut with Metropolitan Opera as Rodolfo *La Bohème*, *The New York Times* wrote: "Other than Pavarotti on his best night, I can't think of another tenor I'd rather hear in the part." Since then, he has sung nearly 200 Met performances in a dozen leading tenor roles—many for the popular Texaco Radio Broadcast Series.

In addition to appearances with the Lyric Opera of Chicago and the opera companies of San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington and San Diego, Leech has regularly performed with Opéra National de Paris, Covent Garden, Wiener Staatsoper, Teatro alla Scala, Florence's Teatro Comunale and Deutsche Oper Berlin. Leech has appeared with orchestras including the Vienna and New York Philharmonics and the National and Montréal Symphonies.

His televised performances include a production of *Madama Butterfly* and the James Levine 25th Anniversary Gala with the Met and a "Live from Lincoln Center" *Rigoletto* with the New York City Opera, as well as appearances on the annual Richard Tucker Music Foundation Gala. Leech was the recipient of the prestigious Richard Tucker Award in 1989 and The Voice Foundation's "Voice Education, Research and Awareness" (VERA) Award.

His discography boasts more than a dozen recordings; a 1991 Berlin performance of *Les Huguenots* was recently released on DVD (Arthaus).