

Mario **SOLIMENE** – Baritone

Brazilian baritone Mario Solimene was born in São Paulo from an Italian family and began studying privately with the Brazilian singing teacher Carlos Vial in 1996. One year later he was accepted at the São Paulo Municipal School of Music, where he continued to work under the same tutor till the conclusion of the course, with Distinction, in 2002. Winner of the prestigious Vitae Foundation Award for two consecutive years, he left Brazil for England and completed his training with distinction at the Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM), Manchester, obtaining a Post Graduate Diploma (2004) and a Master's Degree (2005) in Performance - always under the guidance of Patrick McGuigan. At the same time developed his concert and operatic repertoire with Paul Wynne Griffiths, London's Royal Opera House - Covent Garden. He has also performed in public master classes held by international artists - including Sir Thomas Allen, Sir John Tomlinson, Paolo Gavanelli, Ileana Cotrubas and John Fisher - and is a recipient of many singing awards, including twice the already mentioned Vitae Foundation Award (2003 and 2004), twice The Rose Goulding Scholarship (2003 and 2004), The Anne Ziegler Award (2004), The John Cameron Prize for Lieder (2004) and The William McLeod Johnstone Prize for Male Singers (2005).

After his very first performance in the Opera Studio at the RNCM Manchester he was immediately engaged in productions around the UK, starting by the title role in "*Falstaff*" for the AYF Opera Festival Aberdeen and going on to sing *Scarpia* in "*Tosca*" for the Theater Royal Waterford and then Malatesta in "*Don Pasquale*" for Clonter Opera Theatre. At the same time other engagements took him to stages in Manchester, Liverpool, Nottingham, Derby, São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.

In 2007/2008/2009 he sang *Scarpia* in "*Tosca*" for many productions around UK and Ireland, including Opera North (Leeds), Royal Albert Hall London (Raymond Gubbay), the Helix Dublin and Grand Opera House Belfast (Opus one Opera); as *Di Luna* in "*Il Trovatore*" he worked with the Welsh National Opera (WNO) and Opus One Opera, touring around England, Ireland, Northern Ireland and Wales, and performing at venues like Theater Royal Waterford, The Helix Dublin and Grand Opera House Belfast. As Belcore in "*Elisir D'amore*" Mario appeared in Clonter Opera Theatre und Saint George's Hall Liverpool; as Scamillo in "*Carmen*", again in Clonter Opera Theater and the Britten Theatre London; Finally, as Schaunard in "*La Boheme*", in Israel and Palestinian territories: Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Rahmalla.

Since the season 2009/2010 Mario Solimene is a resident soloist at the Theatre Magdeburg, Germany, where he had sang many important roles, such as the title role in Gianni Schicchi; Germon Père in "*La Traviata*"; Don Giovanni, Leporello (also at Goethe Teather Bad Lauchstädt), and Masetto in "*Don Giovanni*"; Albert in "*Werther*"; Alidoro in "*La Cenerentola*"; Sharpless in "*Madame Butterfly*"; the four villains (Lindorf, Coppélius, Miracle, Dapertutto) in "*Tales of Hoffmann*"; Papageno in "*Magic flute*"; Peter in "*Hänsel und Gretel*", among others.

Recent concert engagements include Bach's "Christmas Oratorium" with the Macao Orchestra China, conducted by Philipp Pickett; "Mozart Requiem" with the Manchester Camerata; Stravinsky's "Pulcinella", with the Philharmonie Magdeburg, conducted by Thomas Rösner; Sir William Walton's "Belshazzar's Feast" with Nottingham Symphony Orchestra, under direction of Richard Roddis; and Brahms' "Ein Deutsches Requiem" in Jerusalem, with the Choir of London conducted by Nicholas Collon. Concert repertoire includes the most important works by J.S. Bach, C.P.E. Bach, Brahms, Elgar, Faure, Gounod, Haydn, Händel, Mozart, Puccini, Rossini, Williams und Verdi.

Future projects include Cecil in "*Maria Stuarda*" and Kurwenal in "*Tristan and Isolde*" for Theatre Magdeburg.