

JAVIER ABREU

Puerto Rican tenor Javier Abreu has been described as a commanding force on stage, incorporating a rich, sweet and agile voice, with ample dramatic skills. Opera News described him as "...a natural Rossini singer," and The Washington Times stated that "his high, supple lyric voice possesses great conviction."

His engagements in the 2009-10 season included his debut as Lindoro in *L'italiana in Algeri* at the Teatro Municipal in Santiago de Chile, a return to The New Israeli Opera as Count Almaviva in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* as well as with Knoxville Opera, Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni* with Teatro Campoamor de Oviedo, his debut as Pepe in the world premier of Jorge Martín's *Before Night Falls* at Fort Worth Opera, as well as several recitals through out the United States. During the 2010-11 season, he will debut with Austin Lyric Opera in *L'italiana in Algeri* and will return to Spain at the Teatro Arriaga and the Opera de Oviedo as Valetto in *L'incoronazione de Poppea*. Also, he will be heard with the Lexington Philharmonic in *The Messiah*.

Mr. Abreu has garnered critical acclaim for his portrayal of Rossini's leading men over the past few seasons. He has portrayed Ramiro in *La cenerentola* for Wolf Trap Opera and New Jersey Opera, Lindoro in *L'italiana in Algeri* for Theater Basel, Count Libenskof in *Il viaggio a Reims* for New York City Opera and The New Israeli Opera, the title role in *Le comte Ory* for Wolf Trap Opera and Tacoma Opera, and Count Almaviva in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* for the Stuttgart Staatsoper. Additionally, he debuted with Minnesota Opera as The Cat in the North American premier of Jonathan Dove's *The Adventures of Pinocchio* and as El Enano de Salnes in the world premier of Enric Palomar's *La cabeza del bautista* at the Gran Teatro del Liceu in Barcelona.

In recent seasons, he also performed Ernesto in *Don Pasquale* for Anchorage Opera, Telemaco in *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria* for the Greenwich Music Festival, Tobias in *Sweeney Todd* for Wolf Trap Opera, Alexis in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Sorcerer* for the Bard Summerscape, and Pedrillo in *Die Entführung aus dem*

Serail for Florida Grand Opera and Opera Omaha.

Also an accomplished concert singer, the tenor sang *Carmina Burana* with the National Symphony, under the baton of Emil de Cou, and *The Messiah* with the Pennsylvania Ballet. He has been a featured soloist with the Pittsburgh Symphony, the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra and the Brazos Valley Symphony. He is the recipient of awards from the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, and the Macallister Awards in the same calendar year. He also received a 2003 Richard F. Gold Career Grant given by the Shoshana Foundation of New York, and Third Prize at the 2005 Liederkranz Foundation Competition. Most recently, he was awarded the Olsen Artist Debut Award by Florida Grand Opera. Mr. Abreu made his Alice Tully Hall debut as the tenor soloist in Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* with the Julliard Choral Union. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Miami. After finishing a Master of Music degree at the University of Houston, he worked as a Young Artists with the Pittsburgh Opera Center for two years. Mr. Abreu is also a recent alumnus of the Juilliard Opera Center.