



Clemens Unterreiner

Baritone

The remarkable life story from blind child to Austrian Kammersänger (honorary title for classical singers that recognizes their outstanding artistic work), writer, singing teacher, intendant and artistic director is a truly extraordinary Austrian career. Since September 2005, Clemens Unterreiner has been a soloist and permanent member of the ensemble at the Vienna State Opera, where he has already established himself as a Viennese audience favorite in almost 900 performances, 26 premieres and in over 92 different roles. His enormous repertoire such as Escamillo, Sharpless, Geistbote, Faninal, Donner, Minister, Don Giovanni, Wolfram, Don Fernando-Minister, Belcore, Music Teacher, Father-Peter Besenbinder, Papageno, Telramund, Marcello, Albert, Paolo, Valentin, Dr. Falke and many other roles range from German, Italian, French and Russian cavalier and heroic baritone roles to the lyrical Mozart subject and also include an extensive classical song repertoire as well as masses and oratorios. He works with great conductors such as Philippe Jordan, Christian Thielemann, Simon Rattle, Franz Welser-Möst, Peter Schneider, Kirill Petrenko, Simone Young, Cornelius Meister, Stefan Soltesz, Seiji Ozawa, Adam Fischer, Andris Nelsons, Valery Gergiev and many others together. Since the 2008 season he has also appeared in various baritone roles such as Sharpless, Speaker, Dr. Falke and Papageno can be heard as guest soloists at the Vienna Volksoper and sang at all major festivals and concert halls in Austria. Internationally he makes guest appearances in London, Paris, New York, Tokyo, Seoul, Taipei, Singapore, Baden-Baden, Dresden, Nice, Muscat, Bratislava, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Oslo, Munich, Berlin, Prague, Budapest and others.

HIS LIFE

Clemens Unterreiner was born in Vienna and grew up in his hometown as well as in Graz and Budapest. Since he became blind as a child due to an eye disease and was only able to overcome his disability through lengthy treatments, he began to love classical music and devote himself to opera singing. During his school years he received acting lessons and gained his first solo experience as a member of the choir and the drama troupe of the academic high school. After graduating from high school, he started studying law at the University of Vienna. During his studies he began to train his voice and deepen his knowledge of music theory and musicology.

EDUCATION

Since 1998 he has been taking singing lessons with KS. Prof. Hilde Rössel-Majdan, Prof. Rudolf Holtenau, KS. Prof. Gottfried Hornik, Prof. Helena Lazarska and KS. Wicus Slabbert. He began performing at the Vienna Festival Weeks, sang numerous opera and church concerts and successfully sang recitals and oratorios in the Great Hall of the Vienna Music Association, the Vienna Konzerthaus and the Palau de la Música Catalana. Various concert tours took him from Vienna to Bulgaria, Syria, Italy, Brazil, Spain, Germany, Asia and the USA. His wide-ranging repertoire ranges from lyrical subjects to Italian, French and German cavalier and heroic baritone roles. He also cultivates his extensive song repertoire and also celebrates great success in the operetta field. As part of his Richard Wagner scholarship from the Bayreuth Festival in 2000, he was able to continually develop his voice and technique for this subject. Masterclasses at KS. Prof. Bernd Weikl, Axelle Gall, KS. Artur Korn, KS. Prof. Gottfried Hornik rounds off his training period.

CAREER

He made his opera debut in October 2002 at the Linz State Theater in the European premiere of "The Voyage" by Philip Glass under Maestro Dennis Russell Davies. In the following years he was a guest soloist at many national and international opera festivals as Count Baccellone in "La Contessina", Bartolo in Paisiello's "Barber of Seville" and Don Parmenione in Rossini's "L'occasione fa il ladro". This was followed by "La Traviata" - Germont, "Fidelio" - Pizarro and "Tosca" - Scarpia in concert performances. He sang Sharpless in a production of "Madama Butterfly" in Chur, Strasbourg and at the large Salzburg Festival Hall, which was awarded the Music Theater Prize in 2004. He celebrated great successes as Don Giovanni, Schlemihl and Crespel in "The Tales of Hoffmann", the minister Don Fernando in "Fidelio" and Sulpice in "La fille du régiment" and also made guest appearances as Guglielmo in "Cosi fan tutte" and Papageno. He made his debut as Consul Sharpless at the Vienna Volksoper, where he has since appeared as a popular guest soloist in a wide variety of roles. In addition to his many repertoire roles at the Vienna State Opera, Clemens Unterreiner also appeared as Baron Douphol, Harlequin, Faninal, Sharpless, Gunther, Donner, Heerrufer, Melot, Speaker, Don Fernando and at the Vienna Volksoper as Speaker, Papageno, Escamillo, Dr. Hawk and Sharpless can be heard. In the summer of 2012 he made his debut at the Salzburg Festival, sang the High Priest in the premiere of Alceste at the State Opera with great success and again his popular Viennese Faninal in Rosenkavalier. In 2013 he celebrated a brilliant success as Papageno in Mozart's Magic Flute at the Opera de Nice and an acclaimed Wolfram in Wagner's Tannhäuser. He also sang his popular Viennese Faninal again at the Vienna State Opera. In April 2013 he opened the new Linz Opera House as a fan at the gala performance of Rosenkavalier. He sang in the State Opera's new production of Puccini's "La fanciulla del west" and celebrated a considerable success in the leading role of the mayor in the premiere of the children's opera "Das Städtchen Drumherum". In the 2014 season, in addition to his countless repertoire roles, Clemens Unterreiner also appeared as Gunther (Twilight of the Gods), Donner (Rheingold), Harlequin (Ariadne auf Naxos), Faninal (Rosenkavalier), Heerrufer (Lohengrin), Don Fernando (Fidelio) and Papageno (Listen to The Magic Flute. He also appeared at the New Year's Bat as Dr. Falke on stage and celebrated his role debut as a music teacher in Ariadne auf Naxos. He made his debut at Carnegie Hall in New York, his role debut as Telramund in Wagner's Lohengrin and celebrated an acclaimed recital at the Vienna Musikverein. In 2015 he sang, among other things, the Silvester-Fledermaus at the Vienna State Opera, the Faninal at the Baden-Baden Easter Festival, the Brahms Requiem at the Vienna Musikverein, Mahler's Songs of a Traveling Journeyman with

the Berlin Philharmonic and then in Vienna with the Vienna Philharmonic and celebrated his house debut as Faninal at the Tokyo State Opera. Clemens Unterreiner made his debut in Arabella at the Semperoper in Dresden under Christian Thielemann and shortly afterwards, as father - Peter Besenbinder, he saved the premiere of Hänsel and Gretel at the Vienna State Opera, also under the direction of Christian Thielemann. In 2016 he sang New Year's Eve and New Year's Bat at Haus am Ring and made his debut as Verschinin in the premiere and premiere at the Vienna State Opera in Peter Eötvös's 3 Sisters. He also made his debut as Albert in Werther at the Royal Opera House Muscat and sang at the State Opera in, among others, Tosca, La Bohème, Manon and the revival of Alceste. For his 10th anniversary at the Klosterneuburg Opera in the summer, he triumphed as Tonio in Bajazzo and then celebrated a great success as Escamillo in Carmen at the Vienna State Opera, becoming the first Austrian in 34 years to do so. He sang several recitals and concerts in the Vienna Konzerthaus, the MÜPA Budapest, the Vienna Musikverein and celebrated his debut at the Royal Opera House Muscat as Telramund in Wagner's Lohengrin. He appeared again at the St. Margarethen Opera Festival, at the Steinbach Philharmonic Weeks at Attersee, at the Carinthian Summer and sang the revival of Rosenkavalier at the Tokyo State Opera. In 2018 he made his debut as Valentin at the Savonlinna Opera Festival. At the renowned summer festival "operklosterneuburg" in summer 2019, he celebrated his acclaimed role debut as all four villains in Hoffmann's Tales, which was also broadcast on TV on ORF 3. In the 2019/2020 season, in addition to many repertoire performances, Sharpless (Madama Butterfly) Dr. Falke (Fledermaus), Oberpriester (Samson et Dalila) and Paolo (Simon Boccanegra) as well as numerous song recitals and concerts at home and abroad on the schedule. In 2021/2022 he celebrated great successes as Belcore (L'elisir d'amore) 1st Nazarene (Salome) and many others. In 2023 he sang the spirit messenger in the revival of Frau ohne Schatten and in the premiere of Trittico (Gianni Schicchi) by Giacomo Puccini under the direction of Christian Thielemann.

CURRENT

Clemens Unterreiner was officially named Austrian "KAMMERSÄNGER" on June 21, 2023 in the traditional tea salon of the Vienna State Opera in the presence of numerous guests from politics, culture, business, media and society.

Since September 1, 2023, he has been INTENDANT and artistic director of the BURG GARS opera, where he celebrated a brilliant restart of the festival in 2024 with his first premiere of Donizetti's "L'elisir d'amore - The Elixir of Love". This successful production was also broadcast on TV by ORF 3 for the first time in the festival's 35-year history. In 2025, his second season opened with Verdi's "La Traviata" and the big summer night concert „STARS in GARS – Unterreiner & Friends“ was broadcast by ORF 3. In 2026, he will open his third season in Gars with Puccini's "Madama Butterfly". At this largest unamplified open-air opera festival in Austria, he will create a varied, top-class cultural supporting program with top stars and newcomers from the classical music industry in addition to the summer opera with the new KulturBURG. In addition to his artistic activities as a singer and artistic director, Unterreiner also supports people in need with his association HILFSTÖNE, is committed to the promotion of young artists, gives master classes and is active in the jury of the international singing competition.

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