

Robert Pomakov Bass

Full Biography

Canadian bass Robert Pomakov has already earned attention for his unique voice and musicianship in opera, concert and recital. Only 24 years old, he is a recent graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. During the current season, he makes his Houston Grand Opera debut in the dual roles of Varlaam and Shalkalov in *Boris Godunov* opposite Samuel Ramey and conducted by Tugan Sokhiev. He repeats Varlaam for his debut at the Theatre Royale de la Monnaie in Brussels. Other European debuts this season include the Opera de Montpellier as First Nazarene in *Salome* and at Opera de Marseille as Don Fernando in *Fidelio*. Among other concert appearances, he will sing the *Elijah* with the Winnipeg Symphony and appear in concert and recital at Canada's Scotia Festival.

During the 2004/5 season, Robert Pomakov performed both Ferrando in *Trovatore* and Orbazzano in *Tancredi* in his ongoing collaboration with the Canadian Opera Company. He also made his debut at English National Opera as Basilio in *The Barber of Seville* and at Opera Theater of St. Louis in productions of *Gloriana* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Other recent roles at COC include Hobson in *Peter Grimes*, the Sacristan in *Tosca* and Monterone in *Rigoletto*. He made his debut at Chicago Opera Theater as Seneca in *L'Incoronazione di Poppea* directed by Diane Paulus and conducted by Jane Glover. He returned to this company for Rossini's *Il Viaggio a Reims*. In concert, he performed the Beethoven 9th Symphony with the Edmonton Symphony, Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius* at Worcester Cathedral and the Dvorak *Te Deum* in a return to the Lanaudiere Festival. He also appeared in recital in Toronto and in concert with the CBC. He also performed a Canadian recital tour and returned to the Ravinia Festival for Beethoven's 9th Symphony under Christoph Eschenbach.

In earlier seasons, Robert Pomakov made his Washington Opera debut as Leporello in *Don Giovanni* in a new production conducted by Plácido Domingo to superb reviews. He continued his association with the Canadian Opera Company in Stravinsky's *Oedipus Rex* both in Toronto and at the Edinburgh Festival. He will also sang Sam in *Un Ballo in Maschera* there. He debuted at the Opera Festival of New Jersey as Gremin in *Yevgeny Onegin* and the First Apprentice in *Wozzeck* conducted by David Agler. In concert he has performed *Messiah* with the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, a concert of French music for the Canadian Broadcast Council, a concert of international Christmas music in Almonte, Canada and a recital tour of Eastern Canada. He made his Ravinia Festival debut in Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy* conducted by James Conlon and returned a few weeks later for the role of Virgil in Rachmaninov's *Francesca da Rimini* conducted by Eschenbach. He also appeared there under Eschenbach in the Berlioz French version of *Der Freischütz*. At the Lanaudiere Festival, he sang King René in a concert version of Tchaicovsky's *Iolantha*.

Robert Pomakov graduated from the world-renowned St. Michael's Choir



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