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PAVLO BALAKIN



Pavlo Balakin (*bass*) is one of the most outstanding opera soloists of his generation in Estonia today.

Pavlo's first music degree is from the jazz saxophone class of the Donetsk Music Academy in Ukraine (2006). Thereafter the Ukrainian born bass studied singing at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre with Prof Mati Palm. In addition, he has worked regularly with a number of great coaches, among them Richard Barker, Roberta Ferrari, Kristina Vavolo, Kristin Okerlund and Jeffrey Goldberg.

Between 2002-2008 Pavlo sang in the chorus of the Ukrainian National Opera and between 2008-2013 in the chorus of the Estonian National Opera. Besides, he sang many bass solo roles until being officially hired as a soloist by the Estonian National Opera in 2013.

In 2016, Pavlo Balakin made his debut in Italy – singing the title role of Attila in Verdi's "Attila" at Teatro

Massimo di Palermo – and continued during the summer as Dottore Grenvil in the production of "La Traviata" at Opera di Firenze. In 2017, his main roles included the title role in Verdi's "Attila" and Hermann in Wagner's "Tannhäuser" at Teatro La Fenice; Ramfis in "Aida" and Provost marshal in Hindemith's "Cardillac" at the Estonian National Opera; as well as singing in Beethoven's 9th Symphony in Estonia and Israel. In Autumn 2017 he had his debut at the Den Jyske Opera in Denmark as Dulcamara in their new production of Donizetti's L'elisir d'amore and in February 2018 debuted in the same role at the Lviv National Opera Theatre in his homeland Ukraine.

In Summer 2018 Pavlo performed at Opera på Skäret in G. Verdi opera "Don Carlo" in the roles of Grand Inquisitor and the Monk. November 2018 Pavlo will sang in A. Dvořák "Stabat Mater", with Maestro Christoph Eschenbach & Odense Symphony Orchestra in Odense Carl Nielsen Hall, Denmark. January 2019 he made his debut as Malyuta Skuratov in "The Tsar's Bride" by N.A. Rimsky-Korsakov at the Estonian National Opera.

In addition to the previously mentioned, Pavlo's repertoire includes smaller and bigger soloist roles, such as Méphistophélès (Gounod's "Faust"), Enrico ("Anna Bolena"), Daland ("The Flying Dutchman"), Ptolemy (Händel's "Julius Caesar"), Monterone ("Rigoletto"), Count Horn ("Un ballo in maschera"), Surin (Tchaikovsky's "The Queen of Spades"), Boriss and Pimen (Mussorgsky's "Boriss Godunov") and Salieri (Rimsky-Korsakov's "Mozart and Salieri", concert performance).

Pavlo Balakin is also highly valued as an oratorio and chamber music soloist, having performed bass parts in J. S. Bach's "St John Passion" and "St Matthew's Passion", Beethoven's Mass in C Major, Verdi's "Requiem", Mozart's "Requiem", Mendelssohn's "Elias", Strauss' "Deutsche Motette", Rossini's "Petite messe solennelle", Mussorgsky's "Songs and Dances of Death" and "Suite on Verses of Michelangelo Buonarotti" by Shostakovich.

Pavlo Balakin has worked with many renowned conductors, among them Daniel Oren, Riccardo Frizza, Omer Meir Wellber, Fabrizio Maria Carminati, Eri Klas, Andres Mustonen, Vello Pähn, Arvo Volmer; and with numerous highly acclaimed directors, such as Dmitry Bertman, Daniel Slater, Daniele Abbado, Calixto Bieito, Georg Rootering, Pamela Recinella, Vilppu Kiljunen, Andreis Zagars and Tobias Kratzer to name a few.

In 2013, Pavlo Balakin won the Annual Estonian Theatre Award "Crystal Shoe" for his mature interpretation of Méphistophélès in Gounod's "Faust".

EMPLOYMENT

FREELANCE SOLOIST

2017 - Present

SOLOIST

2013 - 2017 - Estonian National Opera CHORUS

2008 - 2013 - Estonian National Opera CHORUS

2002 - 2008 - National Opera of Ukraine

2013 - MMA

VOCAL PERFORMANCE

Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre,
Estonia

2006 - MMA

INSTRUMENTAL

PERFORMANCE - SAXOPHONE

Donetsk State Music Academy Donetsk,
Ukraine

COLLABORATIONS

CONDUCTORS

Eschenbach, Alperden, Mustonen, Volmer, Klas, Carminati, Frizza, Oren,
Balke, Ciampa, Johansson.

STAGE DIRECTORS

Slater, Bieto, Malvius, Abbado, Kratzer, Bertman, Zagars, Mikk, Kiljunen,
Alexandrov, Relton, Corno.

VOCAL TEACHERS

Mati Palm, Jeffrey Goldberg (USA), Christin Okerlund (Austria),
Margarita Gruzdeva (Latvia), Richard Barker (Italy), Eva Märtson
(Germany), Maris Skuja (Latvia), Ljudmila Shemchuk (Ukraine)

2023

- Wagner "Lohengrin"

König. Estonian National Opera

2022

- Mozart «Don Giovanni»

Commendatore Riga Opera

- C.Gounod «Faust»

Méphistophélès Tallinn Opera

- G.Verdi «Luisa Miller» Walter

Riga

- G.Donizetti «Don Pasquale» Don

Pasquale Tallinn

- G. Verdi «Aida» Ramfis

Riga

2021

- G.Rossini «Cenerentola» Don

Magnifico Riga

- G.Verdi «Nabucco» Zaccaria

Riga

- Korsakov «The Tsar's Bride»

Malyuta Tallinn

2019

- S.Gubaidulina «Über Liebe un Hass»

solo Trondheim,Norway

- G.Puccini «Tosca» Angelotti

Tallinn

2018

- G.Donizetti «L`elisir d´amore»

Dulacamara Lviv,Ukraine

- G.Donizetti «Anna Bolena»

Tallinn

- G. Verdi «Don Carlo» Il Grand

Inquisitore Opera på Skaret

Kopparberg, Sweden

- A.Dvořák "Stabat Mater"

Odense, Denmark

with Maestro Christoph Eschenbach

2017

- R.Wagner «Tannhäuser» Hermann

Landgraaf Venezia,Teatro "La Fenice"

- J.S.Bach "St. John Passion"

solo Tel Aviv

"St. Matthew Passion" solo

Tel Aviv

2016

- G.Verdi «Attila» Attila

Palermo, Italy

- R.Wagner«Der fliegende Holländer»

Daland Tallinn

- G.Verdi «Rigoletto» Monterone

Tallinn

2015

- P.Hidemith «Cardillac» Police

Chief Tallinn

- R.Strauss «Arabella» Waldner

Tallinn

- G.F.Händel «Julius Caesar»

Tolomeo Tallinn

SOLO PARTS

G.Rossini "La Petite Messe Solennelle" o

M.Mussorgsky "Songs and Dances of Death"

o G.Verdi "Requiem"

o L.van Beethoven "Symphony no. 9"

o D.Shostakovich "Suite on Verses

of Michelangelo Buonarotti"

o F.Mendelssohn "Elias"

o W.A.Mozart "Requiem"

o K.Penderecki "Dies illa"

o F.Mendelssohn "Elias"

o W.A.Mozart "Requiem"

o K.Penderecki "Dies illa"