

Mikael Babajanyan

Baritone



Mikael Babajanyan was born in Yerevan, Armenia. He completed his singing and conducting studies at the State Conservatory Yerevan with outstanding results, and was the award winner of several national singing competitions. At the Komitas Conservatory in Yerevan, he was taught by the famous voice professor Arax Davtian, and later he continued his singing studies in Germany with Tom Krause and Károly Szilágyi.

Recent performances in 2008/2009 include his debut at the Opera Festival in Savonlinna, Finland where he performed Amonasro; Gellner in Catalani's opera *La Wally* in Klagenfurt, Austria; and a repeat performance of Amonasro in Dijon, France. He also performed Francesco in *I Masnadieri* in Munich, Don Giovanni at the State Theater Schwerin and also Marcello at Nationaltheater Mannheim. In the current 2009/2010 season, he is in the midst of performances

of Renato and Scarpia at Aalto-Theater Essen, as well as of Zurga in Georges Bizet's *Les Pêcheurs de Perles*. Further engagements this season include the role of Drebednyov in Dmitri Shostakovich's *Moscow, Cheryomushki* in Lyon, France; a repeat of Francesco/*I Masnadieri* in Munich; Germont in *La Traviata* at Cologne Opera, and Sharpless in *Madama Butterfly* at the Opera Festival in Savonlinna, Finland. In 2010/2011 he will sing the title role in *Eugene Onegin* at Opera Leipzig and Gellner in *La Wally* at Frankfurt Opera; and in 2011/2012 he will perform Iago in *Otello* at the New National Theatre in Tokyo.

In 2007/2008, he performed again as Iago as well as Prince Jeletzky in *Pique Dame* at the Opera of Bonn. He continued his performances as Scarpia in Mönchengladbach, Marcello again at Aalto Theater in Essen, Germont at the State Theater Saarbrücken, and as Conte di Luna at Pfalztheater in Kaiserslautern. Additionally, he sang Francesco in Verdi's *I Masnadieri* in Munich at Gärtnerplatz Theater.

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Mikael Babajanyan, cont'd.

In the 2006/07 season he performed as Amonasro from *Aida* at Theater Bielefeld and as Scarpia in *Tosca* at the State Theater Schwerin, as well as at the City Theater of Krefeld and Mönchengladbach. He also gave a magnificent debut as Iago in *Otello* at the Opera of Bonn.

By the 2004/2005 season, Mikael Babajanyan had successfully transitioned into being a highly acclaimed dramatic baritone. At the Opera Festival in Schwerin in 2004, he sang Renato in *Un Ballo in Maschera*; in 2005, Rigoletto; in 2006, Germont from *La Traviata*; and in 2007, Conte di Luna in *Il Trovatore*.

From 2002 to 2005 he was a permanent member of the ensemble at Theater Dortmund. There he sang Belcore in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, Don Giovanni, Faninal in *Der Rosenkavalier*, Fernando in *Fidelio*, Il Conte in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte*, the title role in *Eugene Onegin*, Schaunard in *La Bohème* and Sharpless in *Madama Butterfly*. From 2003 to 2007 he also performed regularly at the State Theater Schwerin as Marcello in *La Bohème*, as Ford in *Falstaff* and again the role of Don Giovanni.

For the 2001/2002 season he performed Hidraot in a new production of Gluck's *Armide* at Theater im Pfalzbau Ludwigshafen and sang different roles at the City Theater of Giessen. At the State Opera Hanover he performed several times as Allazim in Mozart's *Zaide*. Further guest performances lead him to the Aalto Theater in Essen, the Grand Théâtre de la Ville in Luxemburg, the State Theater Karlsruhe, and Theater Bremen. In the 2000/2001 season he sang Sharpless from *Madama Butterfly* at the City Theater of Koblenz as well as Dandini in *La Cenerentola* at Theater Bielefeld.

From 1997 to 1999, Mr. Babajanyan was a member of the ensemble at the National Theater Yerevan, where he sang important baritone roles like Rodrigo in *Don Carlos*, Germont in *La Traviata*, the title role in *Eugene Onegin*, and Figaro in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. He was often a soloist at the Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra where he performed the Fauré *Requiem*, the Brahms *Requiem*, the Mozart *Requiem* and Rossini's *Stabat Mater*. Additionally, he also conducted the orchestra of the National Theater Yerevan.

He has also collected concert experience, including performing at the Bartok/Mozart Opera Festival in Miskolc (Hungary); and he sang the *Messa per Rossini* with Helmuth Rilling in several concerts, including in Stuttgart, at the Rheingau Musik Festival, as well as at the Oregon Bach Festival.

Mr. Babajanyan currently resides in Germany.

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