

ROSENBLATT RECITALS

We regret to announce that **Miroslav Dvorsky** is indisposed and has had to cancel his appearance with Rosenblatt Recitals this evening, 23rd September 2009, due to ill health. We are extremely grateful to baritone **Leigh Melrose** for stepping in at very short notice to perform the recital, as scheduled, with pianist **Simon Lepper**.

23 SEPTEMBER 2009, 7.30pm

LEIGH MELROSE *Baritone*

Simon Lepper *Piano*

ST. JOHN'S, SMITH SQUARE



WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART
Rivolgete a lui lo sguardo **Così fan tutte**

CHARLES GOUNOD
Avant de Quitter ces lieux **Faust**

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART
Papagena, Papagena, Papagena! **Die Zauberflöte**

PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY
Ya vas lyublyu **Pique Dame**

AMBROISE THOMAS
Ô vin dissipe la tristesse **Hamlet**

INTERVAL

GAETANO DONIZETTI
Come Paride vezzoso **L'Elisir d'amore**

GIACOMO PUCCINI
Questo Amor **Frank**

BENJAMIN BRITTEN
Canon aria and farewell **Billy Budd**

ERICH WOLFGANG KORNGOLD
Mein Sehnen, mein wänen **Die Tote Stadt**

GEORGES BIZET
Votre toast **Carmen**

LEIGH MELROSE *Baritone*

In recent years, Leigh Melrose has carved out a formidable reputation for the performance of new works. His excellent sense of rhythm, fearless vocal flexibility and engaging stage presence mark him out as one of the most sought after singers for this challenging work.

A wonderfully dynamic artist on both the concert and opera platform Leigh is also in demand for core repertoire from Brahms to Berg and Mahler to Mozart.

A graduate of St John's College, Cambridge, and the Royal Academy of Music, his opera engagements have taken him to companies all over the world where he has sung Demetrius *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for La Monnaie, Escamillo *Carmen* at the Royal Albert Hall and with CBSO/Sakari Oramo, Figaro *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* at New York City Opera, Silvio *I Pagliacci* for Welsh National Opera, Britten's *Death in Venice*, Liceu Barcelona, Papageno *The Magic Flute* and Marcello *La bohème* for Opera Zuid, Sid Albert *Herring*, Salzburger Landestheater and for the Opéra Comique and Opera de Rouen, the title role in *Eugene Onegin*, Longborough Festival Opera and Ned Keene *Peter Grimes*, Papageno *The Magic Flute*, The Count *Marriage of Figaro*, Rodolfo Leoncavallo's *La bohème* and Junius *The Rape of Lucretia* for English National Opera.

In the contemporary field Leigh has given many world premieres including most recently Elliot Carter's *On Conversing with Paradise* at the Aldeburgh Festival under Oliver Knussen and Evan in James MacMillan's new opera *The Sacrifice* at Welsh National Opera, both to critical acclaim. He has also sung Punch in Birtwistle's *Punch and Judy* in Porto, Rambo in the Channel Four film of John Adams' *The Death of Klinghoffer*, roles in Jonathan Dove's TV Opera, *Man on the Moon* for Channel 4, Xenakis *Aiswith* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra at the Proms and Berlin Festival and Peter Maxwell Davies *The Martyrdom of St Magnus* at the composer's St Magnus Festival, Orkney, in Edinburgh and Inverness.

Concert performances have included *Belshazzar's Feast*, Berlioz' *Symphony No.3* and *The Death of Klinghoffer* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, *Les Troyens* with LSO/Colin, Britten *Canticules* at the Liceu Barcelona and with Roger Vignoles at the Queen Elizabeth Hall and the Wigmore Hall in London, Fauré *Requiem* with the Northern Sinfonia and Thierry Fischer, De Falla's *La Vida Breve* at the BBC Proms, works by Mozart and Salieri with the City of London Sinfonia at the Mostly Mozart Festival at the Barbican, and *Carmina Burana* in Birmingham Symphony Hall, at Usher Hall and with the RTE National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland.

Future plans include Ned Keane *Peter Grimes* for the Vlaamse Opera and Opera Oviedo (David Alden production from ENO) Papageno *Die Zauberflöte* for Seattle Opera, Second Apprentice *Wozzeck* in concert with the Philharmonia Orchestra and Esa-Pekka Salonen in London and Paris, the world premiere of Johannes Kalitzke's *Die Besessenen* at Theater an der Wien, concerts with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic and Vassily Petrenko, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and the Hebrides Ensemble.

Leigh Melrose is represented by Intermusica.