

MARK SCHOWALTER

Tenor

Tenor Mark Schowalter, well known for his thoughtful interpretations and rich voice, is at home on both the concert and operatic stages. Mr. Schowalter has been privileged to sing with some of the world's finest conductors and their orchestras including James Levine (Metropolitan Opera, Munich Philharmonic), Seiji Ozawa (Boston Symphony and Saito Kinen Orchestra), Valery Gergiev (Metropolitan Opera), Mstislav Rostropovich (National Symphony), and Charles Dutoit (Montréal Symphony).

Currently in his tenth consecutive season at the Metropolitan Opera, Mr. Schowalter will perform the roles of Spalanzani in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, Sergeant in *Le barbiere di Siviglia*, Scaramuccio in *Adriane auf Naxos*, and the Second Gravedigger in the new production of Ambroise Thomas' *Hamlet*. His seasons' highlights in New York have included performances as Jaquino in Beethoven's *Fidelio* under the baton of James Levine, St. Brioche in Lehar's *Die lustige Witwe*, Chaplitsky in Tchaikovsky's *Pique Dame*, Reverend McMillan in the world premiere of Tobias Picker's *An American Tragedy*, and no less than four Strauss operas: *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, *Ariadne auf Naxos*, and *Elektra*. He has also been heard in supporting roles in *I vespri Siciliani*, *Die Zauberflöte* and *Samson et Dalila*. Mr. Schowalter has been seen in the 2003 PBS "The Metropolitan Opera Presents" telecast of *Ariadne auf Naxos*. In 2009-2010 season, he will make his New York Philharmonic debut under Maestro Gilbert as Piet the Pot in Lygeti's *Le Grand Macabre*. In the summer 2010, he will make his Santa Fe Opera debut in the role of Spalanzani in *Les Contes d'Hoffman* and The Mayor in *Albert Herring*.

In addition to his Metropolitan Opera engagements, Mr. Schowalter's most recent opera engagements included an invitation by Seiji Ozawa to sing Bob Boles in Britten's *Peter Grimes* at the Saito Kinen Festival in Matsumoto, Japan and the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino in Florence, Italy. *Peter Grimes* is the opera he first sang with Mr. Ozawa in its 50th anniversary production at the Tanglewood Music Festival. Mr. Schowalter was also heard in Germany in *Moses und Aaron* with Mr. Levine and the Munich Philharmonic, and sang Lysander in the Florentine Opera's production of Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, conducted by Stuart Bedford. Mr. Schowalter's recent portrayal of Tassilo in Kalman's *Countess Maritza* continues a string of acclaimed leading role appearances with Minnesota's North Star Opera Company. Other roles there include Nemorino in Donizetti's *Elisir d'amore*, Lindoro in Rossini's *Italiana in Algeri*, Fritz in Offenbach's *Grand Duchesse de Gerolstein*, Barinkay in Strauss's *Zigeunerbaron* and Philippe in Romberg's *New Moon*.

Mr. Schowalter's performance of the Evangelist in Bach's *Matthäus-Passion* last season prompted the reviewer of The Philadelphia Inquirer to call him "*among the best I've heard... with a seemingly effortless vocal production.*" Other concert performances include Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* with the Maverick Chamber Festival, Mozart's *Requiem* with William Eddins and the Minnesota Orchestra, Monteverdi's *Vespers 1610* with Helmuth Rilling at the Oregon Bach Festival, and Bach's *Johannes-Passion*, Mozart's *Bastien und Bastienne*, and *Vespers 1610* with Christopher Hogwood and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and National Symphony in Washington.