

Franco Farina, Tenor

Franco Farina has garnered widespread international recognition for his performances in the foremost opera houses worldwide, including the Metropolitan Opera, Opera National de Paris, Vienna State Opera, and Deutsche Oper Berlin. He has graced stages at prestigious venues such as The Salzburg Festival, Hamburg State Opera, and the Bavarian State Opera in Munich. Notable appearances include Teatro La Fenice, Teatro Comunale in Florence, and the Teatro dell'Opera in Rome, as well as engagements at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, Theatre Royal de la Monnaie, and Gran Teatro del Liceo. His talent has also been showcased at the Australian Opera, Teatro Sao Carlos in Lisbon, and various other operatic centers including Toulouse, Lyon, Genoa, Nice, Trieste, Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Dallas, Houston, and Seattle. In the early stages of his career, Farina frequently portrayed Alfredo in *La Traviata* and the Duke in *Rigoletto*, making his Covent Garden debut. Over time, he has expanded his repertoire to encompass nearly the entire Verdi canon, establishing himself as a commanding presence in major Lyric and Spinto tenor roles.

Career Highlights:

His inaugural performance at the Metropolitan Opera marked a significant milestone in his career, as he took on the role of Rodolfo in the timeless opera, *La Boheme*. This momentous occasion saw him sharing the stage with the illustrious Mirella Freni, enhancing the production with their remarkable chemistry and artistry. He subsequently returned for further performances in *La Boheme*, *La Traviata*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Eugene Onegin*, *Carmen*, *Un Ballo in Maschera*, *Turandot*, *Il Trovatore*, *Aida*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Tosca*, and *Norma*.

Renowned for his expertise in Giuseppe Verdi's works, Franco Farina has recently expanded his repertoire to include the operas of Richard Wagner, achieving remarkable success. Farina made his Wagnerian debut as Tristan in *Tristan und Isolde*, followed by his portrayal of Tannhäuser. Additionally, he has taken on more dramatic roles in recent years, embodying characters such as Florestan, Jimmy Mahoney, Samson, and Siegmund.

Critics have lauded his performances, noting, "The diversity of recent roles once again highlights his exceptional ability to interpret dramatic music while staying true to his lyric-Italian heritage, thereby infusing the stage with astonishing musicality." Described as possessing "a noble, clear, and rich voice with nuanced shading," Farina effortlessly masters both vocal and dramatic aspects, as evidenced by his spectacular debut as Tristan. His portrayal brings a welcome infusion of Italian lyricism and vocal resonance to the demanding role, adding power and presence to his performances.

Operatic Engagements:

Franco Farina embarked on his European odyssey, making waves with his debut at the prestigious Puccini Festival in Torre del Lago, where he mesmerized audiences as Rodolfo in *La Boheme*. Since then, his talent has enraptured audiences across the continent, leaving an indelible mark on each stage he graces. His artistic journey forged a special connection with the Opera National de Paris, where he debuted in a captivating new production of *Eugene Onegin*. Farina's repertoire expanded with subsequent appearances in a diverse array of productions, including *Simon Boccanegra*, *Norma*, *Macbeth*, and *Attila*. His versatility shone through as he returned for recurring performances in classics like *La Boheme*, *Madama Butterfly*, and *Turandot*, enriching each rendition with his nuanced portrayal. The Vienna State

Opera became another cornerstone of Farina's career, where he featured prominently in a variety of productions. From a stirring interpretation of Mefistofele conducted by Riccardo Muti to acclaimed performances in La Traviata, Un Ballo in Maschera, and Don Carlos (both French and Italian versions), his contributions left an indelible mark on the opera scene. Farina's debut at the Bavarian State Opera in Munich, highlighted by his compelling portrayal in La Boheme, solidified his reputation as a versatile and accomplished tenor. His repertoire expanded with each project, including a memorable premiere as Don Alvaro, showcasing his range and depth as a performer. Returning to Covent Garden, Farina graced the stage once again, this time in a new staging of Verdi's I Masnadieri, following his previous success as the Duke in Rigoletto. Throughout Italy, he continued to captivate audiences in esteemed venues such as the Arena di Verona, Rome Opera, Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, and Teatro La Fenice in Venice, among others, cementing his status as a revered presence in the Italian opera scene. Farina's international acclaim extended to Japan, where he enthralled audiences as Don Jose with the Opera de Lyon under Nagano and as Calaf with the Teatro Comunale di Firenze under Zubin Mehta, among other prestigious engagements. His repertoire continued to evolve, with notable performances as Radames in Aida and Manrico in Il Trovatore at the Grand Theatre de Geneve, showcasing his versatility and range as a tenor. From his debut as Ernani in Bordeaux to his compelling portrayal of Macduff in Macbeth in Rome, Farina's career continued to flourish on both domestic and international stages. Whether portraying Foresto in Attila in Houston, Carlo in I Masnadieri in Baden-Baden, or Adorno in Simon Boccanegra in Paris, his dedication to the craft and his magnetic stage presence consistently captivated audiences worldwide.

Additionally, he portrayed Arrigo in I Vespri Siciliani in Washington, Don Alvaro in La Forza del Destino in Munich, and appeared in both versions of Don Carlos, in Tokyo and Barcelona respectively. Farina marked significant milestones by singing his first performances of the title role in Verdi's Otello at the Hamburg State Opera under Simone Young and making his debut at the Salzburg Festival in the same role under Riccardo Muti. His extensive repertoire also encompasses the title role in Andrea Chenier.

Recent engagements have seen Franco Farina in diverse performances, including the Verdi Requiem conducted by James Conlon with the Berlin Philharmonic, and concert renditions of Otello while touring with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra under Daniel Harding. He also made his debut in China portraying Calaf in Turandot with the Beijing Opera. Farina's repertoire expansion continued with his debut as Tannhäuser in Hamburg, Florestan in Fidelio in Cologne, and Siegmund in Die Walküre with the Graz Opera. He took on the role of Tristan in a new production for the Flemish Opera and the Teatro Real Madrid and performed Samson at the Savonlinna Opera Festival in Finland.

Educator and Judge:

Farina is highly sought after as a teacher and mentor for both established professional singers and emerging artists. He has conducted master classes in the United States, China, Japan, and Europe, and has served as a judge in prestigious competitions such as the Muslim Magomaev Competition. He has had extensive teaching experience during his time at the Hartt School of Music, as well as working with conservatory students as part of his Masters degree at Oberlin. These immersive sessions provided invaluable opportunities for the participants to refine their craft, receive personalized guidance, and glean insights from his wealth of experience. With a focus on nurturing talent and fostering a deeper understanding of vocal technique and interpretation, these masterclasses served as enriching experiences for all involved, further solidifying his

Education:

After completing his undergraduate studies at Oberlin, Franco Farina pursued a Masters in Music at Oberlin Conservatory of Music under the guidance of Richard Miller. Subsequently, he furthered his education at The Hartt School, serving as a graduate assistant. Farina enriched his musical training by attending The American Opera Center at The Julliard School of Music for two years. He received a Doctorate in Music from Oberlin College, solidifying his academic achievements. He is highly regarded as a vocal instructor, sought after by both established professionals and emerging talents. Farina's expertise has been shared through Master classes conducted in the United States, China, Japan, and Europe, enriching the next generation of vocalists. Mr. Farina is fluent in four languages.

With a career marked by artistic excellence and a commitment to musical education, Franco Farina continues to enchant audiences and inspire aspiring singers worldwide.