

CRAIG PHILLIPS, bass-baritone

LONG FORMAT BIOGRAPHY

Praised for his "suave baritone" (Dallas Morning News), **CRAIG PHILLIPS** is in steady demand on opera stages and concert halls around the country. For his portrayal of Argenio in Handel's *Imeneo*, The New York Times cited his "appealing, sturdy bass-baritone" among a cast of "fresh-voiced and impressive artists." For Nardo in New York City Opera's *La finta giardiniera*, the New York Sun singled-out Mr. Phillips as one of the "true lights of the production", highlighting both his "clear lyric bass baritone" and "great talent for physical comedy."

Appearing with Glimmerglass Opera for six consecutive seasons in a wide range of repertoire, Mr. Phillips distinguished himself as a gifted singing actor. His roles included Count Oscar in Offenbach's *Bluebeard*, Raymond in *Lucie de Lammermoor*, The English Clerk in Britten's *Death in Venice*, and, most recently, the Police Sergeant in *The Pirates of Penzance*. Other recent engagements include Sam in *Un ballo in maschera* with Florida Grand Opera, Pirate King in *The Pirates of Penzance* and Frank in *Die Fledermaus* with Nashville Opera, Leporello in *Don Giovanni* with Pensacola Opera, and the Marquis d'Obigny in *La traviata* with New York City Opera.

As a concert soloist, Mr. Phillips has appeared with prominent orchestras, chamber ensembles, and choirs around the country. Notable engagements include Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* with The New York Collegium, Musica Angelica Los Angeles and Orchestra Wiener Akademie; Dvořák's *Stabat Mater* with the Oakland East Bay Symphony; bass soloist in Handel's *Messiah* with the American Classical Orchestra; Haman in Handel's *Esther* with Albany Pro Musica; bass soloist in Handel's *Israel in Egypt* with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra; and bass soloist in Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* with The New York Chamber Sinfonia. In April, Mr. Phillips appeared with the Handel Choir of Baltimore to sing Raphael and Adam in Haydn's *Die Schöpfung*. In May, he made his Weill Recital Hall debut with Clarion Music Society singing arias from Bortniansky's *Le fils rival*.

An active performer in the early music scene, Mr. Phillips is a founding member of the 4-voice men's ensemble New York Polyphony. Specializing in early and new music, New York Polyphony is gaining a reputation as one of the finest vocal chamber groups of a new generation. Their debut CD was released internationally on Avie Records September 2007.

Future engagements include an encore performance of Cornelius in John Eaton's comic opera *Pumped Fiction* at Symphony Space in New York City, bass soloist in Haydn's *Harmoniemesse* with Sinfonia New York, bass soloist in *Messiah* with Concert Royal and The Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys, Rambaldo in *La rondine* with Sarasota Opera, and Christus in Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* with Washington Bach Consort.

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