



Tonje Thiesen

David Hansen Countertenor

David Hansen is an exceptional countertenor with barely perceptible gear-change between strong low register and rich upper range – *BBC Music Magazine*

...a pure-voiced young Australian who is typical of a new breed of matinée-idol countertenors - Alex Ross, *The New Yorker*

David Hansen was born in Sydney, Australia. He studied singing with Andrew Dalton at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and furthered his studies with James Bowman, Graham Pushee and David Harper.

In 2004, David made his European début for the Aix-en-Provence Festival in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*. Shortly thereafter, he made his UK début in concerts with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra under the baton of Emmanuelle Haïm, as well as performing the title role in Handel's *Fernando* with Il Complesso Barocco under Alan Curtis for the Spoleto Festival, Italy.

Other operatic roles have included Bertarido in Handel's *Rodelinda* under Alan Curtis for the Teatro Arriaga, Bilbao, Spain, Trinculo in the American premiere of Thomas Adès' *The Tempest* for Santa Fe Opera under Alan Gilbert, Tolomeo in Handel's *Giulio Cesare* for Den Norske Opera under Rinaldo Alessandrini and for the Teatro de la Maestranza de Sevilla under Andreas Spering, Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* and *Marien Vespers* for the Deutsche Staatsoper-Berlin under René Jacobs, Athamas in Handel's *Semele* for the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie under Christophe Rousset and Nerone in Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea* for Victorian Opera, the role for which he was nominated for a Helpmann Award. He has worked with directors including Stefan Herheim, Jonathan Kent, Barrie Kosky and Christof Loy.

Concert highlights include the title role in Handel's *Solomon* with René Jacobs and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Handel's *Messiah* at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, his début with the Berlin Philharmonic and Sir Simon Rattle in *Carmina Burana*, *The Tempest* at the Concertgebouw under Markus Stenz, Handel arias with Bernard Labadie and the Melbourne and New World Symphony Orchestras and Britten's *Canticles* with Ian Bostridge, Christopher Maltman and Julius Drake at the Wiener Konzerthaus.

David's début recording, *Purcell: Music For Queen Mary*, with the Academy of Ancient Music and the choir of King's College Cambridge, is available on EMI Classics.

Forthcoming engagements include Bach's *St. John Passion* with the Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano Giuseppe Verdi under Ruben Jais, concerts with both the Copenhagen and Oslo Philharmonic orchestras, the title role in Handel's *Giulio Cesare* for Victorian Opera, *Messiah* with the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra and Schnittke's *Faust Cantata* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Vassily Sinaisky.

David Hansen's Manager in Australasia is Graham Pushee: graham@artsmanagement.com.au
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