



Douglas McNicol Baritone

The Love of the Nightingale Victorian Opera
"...Douglas McNicol's Tereus – an unequivocal personal triumph for him, strongly sung and impeccably characterised."
Opera Opera, David Gyger September 2007

The Marriage of Figaro Opera Australia
"...real men phrase Mozart like this."
The Sydney Morning Herald Peter McCallum 22 January 2002

Born in England, Douglas McNicol was educated in South Australia and then undertook extensive vocal study in Europe. He began his professional singing career at the State Opera of South Australia, and made his debut with The Australian Opera, now Opera Australia, in 1991. He won the Australian Singing Competition in 1993 and was awarded a Churchill Fellowship in 1996.

In his career he has worked for all the major opera companies and orchestras in Australia and New Zealand. Regarded as one of Australia's most experienced baritones, his engagements in 2007 included the world premiere seasons of Richard Mills' opera, "*The Love of the Nightingale*" presented by the UWA Perth International Festival and the West Australian Opera in Perth, with seasons following in Brisbane and Melbourne, *La Fanciulla del West* (Melbourne Symphony Orchestra) and *The Barber of Seville* (State Opera of South Australia).

Roles which he has performed frequently for several companies include Sharpless (*Madama Butterfly*), Don Giovanni and Leporello in *Don Giovanni*, Marcello (*La bohème*), Papageno (*Magic Flute*), Figaro and Count Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Don Alfonso (*Così fan tutte*), Ford (*Falstaff*), Giorgio Germont (*La traviata*), Dr Falke (*Die Fledermaus*), Valentine (*Faust*), Belcore (*L'elisir d'amore*), Zurga (*The Pearlfishers*), Escamillo (*Carmen*), Ned Keene (*Peter Grimes*), and Judge Turpin (*Sweeney Todd*).

Recently he performed the role of Scarpia in *Tosca* at Canterbury Opera, New Zealand. This engagement, which was an outstanding success, represents the beginning of a move towards some different repertoire including the lower Verdi baritone roles, such as *Don Carlo* which he sang in a new production of *La forza del destino*, also for Canterbury Opera. He has gained a reputation for excellence in contemporary opera, performing such roles as the Lieutenant in a new John Haddock opera, *Madeline Lee* for Opera Australia in 2004, and Owen Hart in the Australian premiere of *Dead Man Walking* for State Opera of South Australia.

As a concert artist Douglas has a wide repertoire of oratorio and concert works. He has appeared with Melbourne, Adelaide, Queensland, West Australian Symphony Orchestras, and the Australian Chamber Orchestra as well as performing as a guest artist at 'Opera Under The Stars' in Broome, and with numerous choral societies and chamber music ensembles.

His concert repertoire includes Bach's *Magnificat*, *Christmas Oratorio*, *Mass in B Minor* and Christus in *St John Passion*; *Acis and Galatea*; *The Tempest* and *The Childhood of Christ*; Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*, and the Fauré, Brahms and Mozart *Requiems*, Handel's *Messiah* and *The Bells* by Rachmaninov.

His performances of Sharpless and Masetto, both for Opera Australia are available on video.