



## Luke Gabbedy Baritone

Luke completed a Diploma of Performing Arts (1996) and Bachelor of Music Performance (1998) at the WA Conservatorium of Music, and a Graduate Diploma of Education at the Edith Cowan University (1999). He was a member of the West Australian Opera Chorus from 1998 – 2002, during which time he travelled to Italy to sing Masetto in *Don Giovanni* at the Opera Theatre and Music Festival of Lucca. In 2002, Luke became a member of the West Australian Opera Young Artist Programme. In the same year he was also invited to become a Developing Artist of the Australian Opera Studio. Roles during this time included Count Almaviva in *Figaro's Wedding*, Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Anthony in *Sweeney Todd*, Nardo in *La Finta Giardiniera*, Paris in *Romeo et Juliette*, Imperial Commissioner in *Madama Butterfly*, Melisso in *Alcina*, St Brioche in *The Merry Widow*, the Café Manager in *Greek*, Riccardo in *The Sound Garden*, and the DryBlower in Iain Grandage's *The Dryblower and the Water Girl* (a new opera for children commissioned by the Australian Opera Studio).

Luke has been a finalist in many of the country's major singing competitions including the Covent Garden National Opera Studio Scholarship, the German Operatic Award, second place in the Metropolitan Opera Young Artist Study Award, second place in the National Operatic Aria Competition and the MacDonald's Aria.

In 2003, Luke sang the role of Escamillo in *Carmen* for Simply Opera, touring NSW. In 2004, he became a member of Opera Australia's chorus, and sang the role of Narrator in the company's Oz Opera tour of *Midnite* in Melbourne (2004) and in Adelaide (2005).

Luke made his principal debut with Opera Australia as Mercutio in *Romeo et Juliette* in 2005, and since then has sung the roles of Giuseppe in *The Gondoliers*, Fiorello and the title role in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and Marco in *Gianni Schicchi* for Opera Australia, as well as Marcello in *La Boheme* for West Australian Opera. In 2008, for Opera Australia, Luke will sing Dancairo in *Carmen*, Donald in *Billy Budd*, and Yamadori in *Madama Butterfly* and return to West Australian Opera in the title role of *The Barber of Seville*.