



## Shannon Chad Foley Baritone

Shannon Chad Foley was born in Australia and studied at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music and the Royal College of Music, London.

In 1999 he was a member of Opera Queensland's Young Artist Program, and performed the roles of the Messenger in *La Traviata* and the Official Registrar in *Madama Butterfly*.

In 2000 Shannon Chad Foley was a finalist in the Opera Foundation Australia Covent Garden National Opera Studio Scholarship and winner of the Lady Galleghan Memorial Encouragement Award. In the same year he was a semi-finalist in The Australian Singing Competition's Mathy Awards and winner of the Tinkler Encouragement Award.

In 2001-2003 he studied at the Benjamin Britten International Opera School at the Royal College of Music, where he held a two-year International Scholarship from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. He was also the recipient of the 2001 Opera Foundation Australia American Institute of Musical Studies Award and the 2002 Sir Robert Askin Travelling Scholarship. Whilst there, he performed a number of operatic roles including Theseus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Pilate in *Brockes Passion*, The Messenger in *Oedipus Rex*, Betto in *Gianni Schicchi*, Dulcamara in *L'Elisir d'amore*, Mr Gedge in *Albert Herring*, Pallante in *Agrippina*, and Papageno in *Die Zauberflöte*.

On his return to Australia he made his debut with Opera Australia as the Marchese in *La Traviata*, and appeared in the company's Golden Celebration Gala under the baton of Richard Bonyngue. Further roles with Opera Australia have included Papageno in *The Magic Flute*, Travel Bureau Clerk in *Death in Venice*, Schaunard in *La bohème*, and Belcore in *L'elisir d'amore*.

Other engagements included a concert performance of *Salome* under the baton of Simone Young for Brisbane Festival, a Mozart *Requiem*, with a new ending composed by Gordon Kerry, for the Bangalow Festival and in *St. John's Passion* and Faure's *Requiem*, both at Brisbane's St. John's Cathedral, Opera in the Vineyard in Stanthorpe and Opera Under The Stars in Broome.

In 2007 Shannon sang in a new series of High Tea at the Opera House in Sydney and Sharpless in Simply Opera's *Madam Butterfly* at Parramatta before joining Cologne Opera House, Germany for the 2007/2008 season, where his roles included Achilla in *Julius Caesar*, Haly in *The Italian Girl in Algiers*, Hermann in *The Tales of Hoffmann* and Hauptmann in *Rotter*.

Shannon returned to Australia in 2008 to perform in Opera Australia's production of Britten's *Billy Budd* and continues to share his time between opera and concert engagements throughout Australia.

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