



Virgilio Marino Tenor

Duke of Mantua, *Rigoletto*, Opera Queensland
“Virgilio Marino stepped up admirably to the role, teaming the necessary swagger with a superb voice to relish his famed Act 3 aria.”

Jason Whittaker
Australian Stage Online, 20 October 2009

Australian/Italian tenor Virgilio Marino studied piano at the Australian Institute of Music, Sydney and voice at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. He was winner of the Tenor Award at the Sydney Performing Arts Challenge, a Dame Joan Sutherland Award, and was a finalist in both the prestigious McDonald's Opera Competition and the Australian National Eisteddford in Canberra.

In 2000, Virgilio attended Mannes College of Music in New York where his operatic performances included Fenton in *Falstaff*, Prunier in *La Rondine*, and covering Alfredo in *La traviata*. He has worked with voice coaches including Renata Scotto, Regina Resnik, Ruth Flacon, Tony Manoli and Joe Colaneri and completed masterclasses with Richard Miller, Jon Vickers, Fedora Barbieri and Jay Lessinger. Virgilio was also a quarter-finalist in the New York Metropolitan Opera Award.

Virgilio made his professional debut at Theater Regensburg in Germany in the 2001-02 season, performing the roles of Il Duca di Mantua in *Rigoletto* and the title role in *Oberon*, and covering Oronte in *Alcina*.

2003 took him to Italy for further studies in the Belcanto repertoire and he performed Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* in Milan and was a Semi-Finalist in the *Concorso Riccardo Zandonai*, Riva, Italy.

In 2006, Virgilio joined Opera Queensland's Young Artist Program and in 2007 his performances included Opera in the Vineyard in Stanthorpe, the Myer Music Bowl Verdi concert and *La Fanciulla del West* with Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, the role of Pinkerton in Simply Opera's *Madama Butterfly* at Parramatta Riverside, Howard Boucher in *Dead Man Walking* in Sydney and the *Food of Love* tour and Alfredo in *La traviata* for the re-opening of the Majestic Theatre in Pomona, for Opera Queensland.

More recent engagements have included *Beethoven's 9th*, Enescu's *Vox Maris* and Verdi's *Requiem* with the MSO, the 2009 New Years Eve Gala with the Queensland Pop's Orchestra, Pong in *Turandot* and Monostatos and First Armed Man in *The Magic Flute* for Opera Queensland and Opera at Brookfield for the Brisbane Festival.

In 2009, Virgilio performed Rinuccio *Gianni Schicchi* for Southern Opera (New Zealand), Gastone *La traviata*, Borsa *Rigoletto* and Jaquino *Fidelio* for Opera Queensland, Harry *La Fanciulla del West* for State Opera of South Australia and Verdi's *Requiem* for Sydney Philharmonia. He also sang the role of the Duke on the opening night of *Rigoletto* for Opera Queensland with great success.

This year Virgilio has performed Nemorino in *L'elisir d'amore* and Njegus in *The Merry Widow* for Opera Queensland, Mozart's *Requiem* with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and the national anthem at the GABBA Australia/Pakistan one day cricket test. Future performances include Don Curzio in a performance of *The Marriage of Figaro* for Brisbane Festival/Opera Under The Stars and a special Opera Gala for Queensland Symphony Orchestra.

Virgilio Marino's Manager in Australasia is Graham Pushee: graham@artsmanagement.com.au
assisted by Sarah Holloway: sarah@artsmanagement.com.au

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