

tenor
HANS-GEORG PRIESE



Biography

The tenor Hans-Georg Priese was born in Halberstadt, Germany. He studied voice at the Hochschule für Musik "Hanns Eisler" in Berlin with Professor Heinz Reeh and attended numerous masterclasses including those of Josef Metternich and Ruth Berghaus. After receiving his degree, he took up engagements at the Hans-Otto Theater in Potsdam and at the Landestheater Mecklenburg in Neustrelitz where he built a comprehensive repertoire as a baritone, first in the lyrical and Italian fach, then as a Kavalierbariton. Guest engagements during this time included Bukarest, Wuppertal, Kassel, Cottbus, Leipzig and the Komische Oper Berlin, where he sang his most important baritone roles, Wozzeck and Figaro in "The Barber of Seville". As a concert artist, he gave Liedrecitals and sang in oratorios, notably the works of Johann Sebastian Bach.

On taking up an engagement at the Südthüringisches Staatstheater Meiningen, Hans-Georg Priese changed into the dramatic tenor fach with the roles of Idomeneo and Max, the latter in Philipp Stölzl's much acclaimed debut production of "Der Freischütz". In the following seasons until 2010 many important role debuts followed, such as Florestan in "Fidelio", Giovanni di Salvati in Max von Schillings "Mona Lisa", Erik in "The flying Dutchman" and finally the title roles of "Parsifal" and "Tannhäuser".

As a freelance singer Hans-Georg Priese sang in two Janacek productions at the Opera Köln, where he also took over at short notice the title roles in the world premiere of "Rotter", directed by famous German actress Katharina Thalbach, and in Stravinsky's "Oedipus Rex".

Apart from Meiningen, Hans-Georg Priese has guested as Max in four more theatres, sang Florestan in a new production by John Dew in Darmstadt as well as in Karlsruhe, Saarbrücken and Würzburg. For several seasons he sang Tannhäuser at the original site of the opera's story, the Wartburg in Eisenach.

He revisited the role of Erik in Basel (directed by Philipp Stölzl), sang Tichon in "Katia Kabanova" in Stuttgart and in Lisbon (directed by David Alden) and took over the title-role in a very belated worldpremiere of the opera "Le Cid" by Théodore Gouvy from 1853, a part for which originally Richard Wagner's first Tristan, Ludwig Schnorr von Carolsfeld, had been cast. This performance in a production directed by Jetzke Mijnsen earned Hans-Georg Prieze a nomination as "Singer of the Year" in the opera magazine "Opernwelt" 2011 survey.

Debuts as Bacchus, Alfonso in Korngold's early opera "Violanta" and as Don José in a production of "Carmen" by Volker Schlöndorff at the Seefestspiele Berlin followed. After appearing in a highly acclaimed new production of "Parsifal" in Saarbrücken in 2012, Hans-Georg Prieze was asked to cover Tannhäuser and Parsifal at the Bayreuth Festival and played Tristan in the 2013 production "Wagner für Kinder" there alongside Swedish soprano Iréne Theorin.

After several successful guest performances including Tichon in Hamburg, Tristan in Meiningen and Florestan in Würzburg, Hans-Georg Prieze has now taken up an engagement with the Theater of Altenburg and Gera for the seasons 2015-2017. So far he has expanded his Janacek repertoire with Laca Klemen in "Jenufa", sang the prominent role of Wido in the rediscovered opera "Rübezahl" by Hans Sommer, resumed the role of Max and successfully extended his fach range with Turridu in "Cavalleria Rusticana" and, as a guest in Bochum, with the lyrical role of Frieder in the Siegfried Wagner opera "An Allem ist Hütchen Schuld". In Hagen he sang the highly challenging role of the composer Max in the 2016 production of Krenek's "Johnny spielt auf" alongside Edith Haller.

In the season of 2016/17 Hans-Georg Prieze has made his debut as Jim Mahoney in "Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny" and as Andrej in Tchaikovsky's "Mazeppa". He sings in Beethoven's 9th Symphony and appears as Laca, Max and Wido. Currently he is working on the roles of Otello and Lohengrin.

Hans-Georg Prieze was broadcast by Deutschlandradio Kultur in his roles as Valentin, Cid, Frieder, Wido and as tenor in Mahler's "Lied von der Erde". The rediscovered opera "Rübezahl" has been released on CD in December 2016.

During his career, Hans-Georg Prieze has had the honour of working with numerous notable conductors and stage directors. Besides those already mentioned these include Arthur Fagen, Lyonel Friend, Markus Stenz, Lothar Zagrosek, Gabriel Feltz, Sebastian Weigle, Vladimir Jurovski, Matthias Foremny, Hans Urbanek, Istvan Szabo, Andrea Moses, Gottfried Pilz and Gerd Heinz.

When his busy schedule allows it, Hans-Georg Prieze teaches voice in the conductor's class of the Hochschule für Musik "Hanns Eisler" in Berlin. For ten years now he has worked with students and is appreciated for his pedagogical approach which has its source both in his analytical mind and in his enormous stage experience.

Repertoire

Abraham: Viktoria und ihr Husar Stefan, Koltay
Beethoven: Fidelio, Florestan
Berg: Wozzeck: Narr / Tambourmajor
Bizet: Carmen, Don José
Gouvy: Der Cid, Rodrigo
Janáček: Jenufa: Laca Klemen / Števa Buryja
Janáček: Kát'a Kabanová, Tikhon Ivanich Kabanov
Korngold: Violanta, Alfonso
Krenek: Jonny spielt auf, Der Komponist Max
Lehár: Der Graf von Luxemburg, René Graf von Luxemburg
Leoncavallo: Pagliacci, Canio
Mascagni: Cavalleria rusticana, Turiddu
Mozart: Idomeneo re di Creta, Idomeneo
Rasch: Rotter, Rotter
Schillings: Mona Lisa, Giovanni de Salviati
Sommer: Rübezahl und der Sackpfeifer von Neiße, Wido
Strauss: Ariadne auf Naxos, Bacchus
Strauss: Elektra, Aegisth
Stravinsky: Oedipus rex, Oedipe
Verdi: Otello, Otello
Wagner: Der fliegende Holländer, Erik
Wagner: Die Walküre, Siegmund
Wagner: Lohengrin, Lohengrin
Wagner: Parsifal, Parsifal
Wagner: Tannhäuser, Tannhäuser
Wagner: Tristan und Isolde, Tristan
S. Wagner: Der Kobold: Der Frieder
Weber: Der Freischütz, Kilian / Max

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