



KOFI HAYFORD, BASS

Kofi Hayford, prize-winning Ghanaian-American bass, described as possessing an “impressive” (Brooklyn Discovery) “sonorous,” (Meet Me at the Opera) and “stentorian bass voice” (National Herald) also produces a distinct sound - easily identified for its unique timbre.

With over 30 different operatic roles under his belt, he is swiftly building his reputation as an accomplished bass by bringing an ‘exciting’ and ‘stunning’ sound to the stage. Kofi’s major opera roles have included: Mephistopheles in *Faust*, Ramphis and The King in *Aida*, La Roche in Strauss’ *Capriccio*, Raimondo in Donizetti’s *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Sarastro in *The Magic Flute*, Rodolfo in *La Sonnambula*, Bartolo in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Commendatore in *Don Giovanni*, Sparafucile and Monterone in *Rigoletto*, and Baldassare in *La Favorita*.

Mr. Hayford recently made his small stage Carnegie Hall debut singing at Weill Recital Hall performing Verdi. Kofi sang the inaugural performance of the Greek Opera Olympic Flame singing the role of the titan Prometheus at Lincoln Center’s Bruno Walter Auditorium - later receiving an award from UNESCO for this performance.

Mr. Hayford is the 2018 1st Place Winner of the Tchaikovsky Music Competition (Albany, NY), a 2017 NJ State Opera Guild Competition Finalist, and a 2007 Songfest Young Artist. He received his Bachelor in Vocal Performance from SUNY Buffalo.

Recent performances include Timur in *Turandot*, Ramfis in *Aida*, bass soloist in Mozart’s *Requiem*, Balthazar in *Amahl and the Night Visitors* and the British Major in Kevin Puts’ *Silent Night!*

Mr. Hayford lives in NYC



MIA Artists Management

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OPERATIC REPERTOIRE

Bellini:

Count Rodolfo – *La sonnabula*

Donizetti:

Raimondo – *Lucia di Lammermoor*

Baldassare – *La favorita*

Gershwin:

Sam – *Blue Monday*

Gounod:

Mephistopheles, Wagner – *Faust*

Johnson:

Minister – *Kenyatta*

Karousos:

Prometheus, Hyllos – *The Olympic Fame*

Massenet:

Hotelier – *Manon*

Phanuel - *Herodiade*

Menotti:

Balthazar – *Amahl and the Night Visitors*

Meyerbeer:

Le Chasseur - *Dinorah*

Mozart:

Il Commendatore, Don Giovanni, Leporello – *Don Giovanni*

Antonio, Don Bartolo – *Le nozze di Figaro*

Sarastro – *Die Zauberflote*

Puccini:

Colline – *La boheme*

Sacristan, Angelotti, Jailer – *Tosca*

Bonze – *Madama Butterfly*

Timur – *Turandot*

Jose Castro – *La Fanciulla del West*

Puts:

British Major – *Silent Night*

Rimsky-Korsakov:

Malyuta Skuratov – *The Tsar's Bride*

Strauss:

La Roche - *Capriccio*

Verdi:

Baron Douphol – *La Traviata*

Monterone, Sparafucile – *Rigoletto*

Ramfis – *Aida*

King Philip/The Monk, Grand Inquisitor – *Don Carlo*

Banco, Assassin, Bass Appartition - *Macbeth*

ORCHESTRAL/ORATORIO REPERTOIRE

Beethoven:

Requiem

Symphony No. 9

Handel:

Messiah

Mozart:

Requiem

Rossini:

Stabat Mater

Valdez:

El Condor Pasa



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CONDUCTORS

Richard Cordova
Lucy Arner
Peter Mark
Sean Kelly
Douglas Martin
Ida Anglad
Alex Guzman
Benoit Renard
John Spencer

Paul Ferrington
Bill Doherty
Matthew Jaroszewicz
Predrag Vasic
Francisco Miranda
Katerina Souvarova
Chris Fecteau
Tim Kennedy
Jestin Pieper

OPERA HOUSES/THEATERS

Central Florida Lyric Opera
Amore Opera
Sheen Center
New York Opera Theatre
Buffalo Opera Unlimited
Erie Opera Theatre
Gateway Classical Music Society
Klein Auditorium
Connecticut Lyric Opera
Vocal Productions NYC
Riverside Theatre
NJ Verismo Opera
Bergen Performance Arts Center
Syracuse Opera
The OnCenter Civic Center

Vocal Productions NYC
Bel Cantanti Opera
Randolph Road Theatre
Apotheosis Opera
Staten Island Philharmonic
Buffalo Opera Unlimited
Dell'arte Opera Ensemble
Loft Opera
Opera with a Twist
New Amsterdam Opera
Chelsea Opera
Bruno Walter Auditorium
United Nations Symphony Orchestra
Skirball Theatre



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REVIEWS

Magic Flute – Buffalo Opera Unlimited. Role: Sarastro

‘While all the singers were equal to the task, of course some were “more equal” than others..... I’ve heard a number of MAGIC FLUTES in my day, and they could have graced any stage. Kofi Hayford, the bass, was stunning as Sarastro. He owned it.’

[\(https://www.buffalorising.com/2017/12/the-magic-flute-opera-at-rockwell-presents-magical-voices/\)](https://www.buffalorising.com/2017/12/the-magic-flute-opera-at-rockwell-presents-magical-voices/)

Music Unites Us All Recital

‘Bass Kofi Hayford sang with a booming tone that seemed to be produced with little or no effort, sounding pure and uncontrived. His performance was perhaps most effective in Schubert’s “Grenzen Der Menschheit” and Mozart’s concert aria “Per Questa bella mano” (with a demanding contrabass solo effectively played by Ben Murphy).’ – Charles Coleman, *Meet Me At The Opera*

[\(https://meetmeattheopera.com/music-unities-us/\)](https://meetmeattheopera.com/music-unities-us/)

Rigoletto – Amore Opera. Role: Monterone

‘...the sonorous bass Kofi Hayford as the Count Monterone who’s deafening curse on Rigoletto effects the tragic outcome.’ – Charles Coleman, *Meet Me At The Opera*

[\(https://meetmeattheopera.com/amore-opera-rigoletto/\)](https://meetmeattheopera.com/amore-opera-rigoletto/)

Olympic Flame(a new Greek Opera) – Bruno Walter Auditorium

‘His son Hyllos was presented by Kofi Hayford, whose stentorian bass voice served him well as Prometheus later in the opera.’

<https://www.thenationalherald.com/120298/olympic-flame-presented-in-ny-first-greek-opera-at-lincoln-center/>



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REVIEWS (Cont.)

Madama Butterfly – Regina Opera

“The Bonze, her uncle appears suddenly and denounces Butterfly for abandoning the religion of her ancestors. Kofi Hayford used his impressive basso to make his point and abruptly left the ceremony with family members.”

<http://brooklyndiscovery.com/2018/04/a-thrilling-performance-of-madama-butterfly-at-the-regina-opera/>

Aida - Gateway Classical Music Society

“Ramfis, the High Priest was sung by Kofi Hayford. The “Immenso Ptah duet” was quite exciting with Radames’ golden tenor and Hayford’s deep dark bass joining forces of light and dark to offer sacred power. A magnificent recording of this duet “Numi custode e vindici” exists in the RCA Victor catalog or on the internet with the unforgettable basso born in Rome, Italy, Ezio Pinza and the famed Metropolitan Opera tenor Giovanni Martinelli (1885-1969)..... I am certain Pinza would be gratified to hear such a splendid Ramfis....as we did this magical performance.”

<http://brooklyndiscovery.com/2018/11/gateway-classical-music-society-presents-a-thrilling-aida/>

New Amsterdam Opera Salon Gala - Herodiade

“Bass Kofi Hayford lent his interestingly textured voice to "Dors, o cité perverse!...Astres étincelants" in the role of Phanuel, an astrologer. We look at the stars and see STARdom!”

<http://www.vocedimeche.reviews/2019/03/new-amsterdam-opera-salon-gala.html>



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