



MARK COTTON, BARITONE

Mark Cotton has sung a wide variety of operatic roles from Verdi to Gounod and Bernstein to Barber. He has also spent extensive time on the Concert Stage singing Beethoven, Faure, Haydn, and Verdi. Most recently, he has been heard as the baritone soloist for **L'opera Piccola** 20th Anniversary Gala at the historic **Kloster Eberbach** in Eltville, Hessen performing **Il Balen from Verdi's Il trovatore** and the **Te Deum from Puccini's Tosca**.

This past season he performed the title role of **Rigoletto** with the Delaware Valley Opera and **Tonio** in Opera West's production of **I Pagliacci**.

Margaret Bruetsch of the Sullivan County Democrat described his **Rigoletto** as, "**Cotton's voice is spectacular, but his ability to pull the audience into the story was what really made him stand out. He pivoted from funny jester to cruel voice of the Duke to overprotective and later heartbroken father with ease**".

His voice has been described as "**superb**", "**rich**", "**pure and resonant**" and "**captures the hearts**" of his audience. Equally impressive is his dramatic portrayals and commitment to characters, often remarked that his "**commanding presence brought power to each of his performances**".

Mark has performed internationally with companies such as **Linguagloso Festival, Opera Classica Europa, Hudson Lyric Opera, Delaware Valley Opera, Montclair Opera Theatre, Miami Lyric Opera, NJ Verismo Opera, and the Opera Company of Brooklyn**. His highlighted roles have included **Escamillo, Germont, Count di Luna, Amonasro, Melchior, Alfio, Sharpless, Rigoletto, and Simon Boccanegra**.

The **2021-2022** season also includes performances with Opera West in Santa Fe, NM as **Sharpless** in Puccini's **Madama Butterfly**, concerts with the Delaware Valley Opera singing excerpts from **Don Pasquale, Rigoletto, and Cosi fan tutte**, and appearing as the Title Role of **Ribas-Dominici** by Nathan Felix with the Timicua Arts Foundation in Orlando, Florida.

Equally experienced on the concert stage, Mr. Cotton has performed many of the most popular orchestral works, such as **Handel's Messiah, Mozart's Requiem, Beethoven's 9th Symphony, Dvorak's Te Deum, and Verdi's Requiem** to name a few. He has appeared regularly with the Masterworks Chorus, The Paul Madore Chorale, and the Messiah Society of Grand Junction.

During Mr. Cotton's formative training, he was fortunate to be a student of two operatic legends and devoted mentors, **Carlo Bergonzi** in Busseto, Italy and **Franco Corelli** in New York City. The practical knowledge and technique they passed to Mark gave him a solid foundation to build his career.

When Mark is not on the stage, he enjoys hiking, weight training, cooking, Sci-Fi TV, movies and has earned a Black Belt in Taekwondo.



MIA Artists Management

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OPER

Orest (K)	Elektra	United Opera Collaborative 2023	Crown
Scarpia (A,K)	Tosca	L'opera Piccola 2023	Härle
Count di Luna (A,K)	Il Trovatore	L'opera Piccola 2023	Härle
Tonio	I Pagliacci	Opera West 2022	Vinick/Pantazelos
Rigoletto	Rigoletto	Delaware Valley Opera 2022	Zabbi/Castel
Ribas-Dominicci	Ribas-Dominicci	Timucua Arts Foundation 2022	Lolley/Felix
Sharpless	Madama Butterfly	Opera West 2021	Vinick/Pantazelos
Don Pasquale (A,K)	Don Pasquale	Delaware Valley Opera 2021	Chan/Castel
Rigoletto (A,K)	Rigoletto	Delaware Valley Opera 2021	Chan/Castel
Don Alfonso (A,K)	Così fan tutte	Delaware Valley Opera 2021	Chan/Castel
Alfio	Cavalleria Rusticana	Hudson Lyric Opera 2019	Lane/Perez-Solomon
Amonasro	Aida	Opera Classica Europa 2019	Assante/Vaccaro
Melchior	Ahmal	Montclair Opera Theatre 2019	Eng/Norrie
Rigoletto (A,K)	Rigoletto	Miami Lyric Opera 2019	Coulter
Germont (A,K)	La Traviata	Miami Lyric Opera 2019	Walz
Count di Luna (A,K)	Il Trovatore	Miami Lyric Opera 2019	Walz
Germont (K)	La Traviata	Linguaglosa Festival 2018	Barbagallo
Escamillo (K)	Carmen	Linguaglosa Festival 2018	Barbagallo
Escamillo	Carmen	Eastern Opera of NJ 2017	Maiullo/Lewis
Simon (K)	Simon Boccanegra	Opera Company Brooklyn 2016	Vazquez
Escamillo	Carmen	NJ Verismo Opera 2016	Morss/LaQuaif

KONZERT

Verdi/Requiem	Classical Charity Events 2023	TBA
Handel/Messiah	Messiah Society of Grand Junction 2019	Betts
Mozart/Requiem	The Paul Madore Chorale 2018	Koza
Beethoven/9 th	The Paul Madore Choral 2017	Madore
Dvorak/Te Deum	The Paul Madore Chorale 2017	Madore
Verdi/Requiem	The Paul Madore Choral 2017	Steenbrugge
Mozart/Requiem	Masterworks Chorus 2017	Juneau
Haydn/Creation	Masterworks Chorus 2017	Maiullo
Mendelssohn/Elijah	Masterworks Chorus 2016	Maiullo
Rossini/Stabat Mater	First Presbyterian Westfield, NJ 2016	Alstrom
Faure/Requiem	Masterworks Chorus 2016	Maiullo
Beethoven/9 th	Masterworks Chorus 2016	Maiullo

A=Auszüge
K=Konzert



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OPERATIC REPERTOIRE

Barber:

David – *A Hand Bridge*

Bernstein:

Sam - *Trouble in Tahiti*

Donizetti:

Alfonso – *La favorita**

Enrico – *Lucia di Lammermoor**

Leoncavallo:

Tonio – *I Pagliacci*

Mascagni:

Alfio – *Cavalleria Rusticana*

Moore:

Tabor – *The Ballad of Baby Doe**

Poulenc:

Marquis – *Carmelites**

Puccini:

Sharpless – *Madama Butterfly*

Scarpia – *Tosca**

Ping – *Turandot**

Rodgers & Hammerstein:

Emile de Becque – *South Pacific*

Strauss:

Orest-*Elektra*

Verdi:

Germont – *La traviata*

Rigoletto – *Rigoletto*

Conte di Luna – *Il trovatore**

Renato – *Ballo in maschera**

Iago – *Otello**

Amonasro – *Aida*

Simon Boccanegra – *Simon Boccanegra*

*Not Performed



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ORCHESTRAL/ORATORIO REPERTOIRE

Beethoven:

Symphony No.9

Eastwood:

Final Litany

Faure:

Requiem

Handel:

Messiah

Judas Maccabeus

St. John Passion

Haydn:

The Creation

Mendelssohn:

Elijah

Mozart:

Requiem

Purvis:

The Ballad of Judas Iscariot

Rossini:

Stabat Mater

Verdi:

Requiem



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REVIEWS

MARK COTTON BROKE MY HEART WITH HIS MOVING RENDITION OF VERDI'S "CORTIGIANI". HIS VOICE WAS SO PURE AND RESONANT, AND HIS PORTRAYAL OF RIGOLETTO WAS SUPERB. HIS VERSATILITY IN THE VARIOUS DUETS, TRIOS AND QUARTET PERFORMANCES WAS AMAZING. HE AND [ROB] FLORA WERE FANTASTIC IN DONIZETTI'S "CHIETI, CHIETI IMMANTINENTE" AND THEIR IMPECCABLE DELIVERY OF A VERY FAST, TONGUE-TWISTING STRETCH OF ITALIAN DESERVED A STANDING OVATION.

MARGARET BRUETSCH
SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT

MARK COTTON PUT HIS FULL RANGE ON DISPLAY AS HE WENT FROM THE SERIOUS "CORTIGIANI" FROM RIGOLETTO (WHERE HE HAD AN AMAZING ACAPELLA SECTION TOWARD THE END) TO THE GOOFY "CHIETI, CHIETI IMMANTINENTE" FROM DON PASQUALE. IN THE LATTER, COTTON WAS CLEARLY ENJOYING HIMSELF AND WAS SINGING A MILE-A-MINUTE; THIS WAS ONE OF MY FAVORITE SCENES FOR HIM.

BRITTANY PIERCE-CAIAZZA
MEET ME IN THE GREENROOM - BLOG

BASS-BARITONE **MARK COTTON'S** COMMANDING PRESENCE BROUGHT POWER TO EACH OF HIS PERFORMANCES, MOST NOTABLY AS A PLEADING RIGOLETTO FROM VERDI'S OPERA OF THE SAME NAME.

LIAM MAYO
RIVERREPORTER.COM

BARITONE **MARK COTTON** IS THE PERFECT TOREADOR. AS ESCAMILLO, HIS COMEDIC BRAGGADOCIOS POSTURING CAPTURES THE HEART OF EVERY FAIR MAIDEN - WHILE SUGGESTING THAT THE BULL THAT COULD KILL HIM HAS YET TO BE BORN.

ART RITCHIE
MYCENTRALJERSEY.COM

THE RICH AND RESONANT BARITONE VOICE OF **MARK COTTON** LENDS ITSELF WELL TO GIORGIO GERMONT...FULL-THROATED PROJECTION AND CAREFUL ENUNCIATION.

THE TIMES HERALD RECORD



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