

THOMAS WEINHAPPEL

Heldenbariton (Heroic baritone)

Languages: German, English, Italian

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"The upcoming Wagnerian father of the gods is named Thomas. Always following the vocal line, never forcing, and above all: with perfect clarity of diction. Born from the language itself and shaded with subtle dynamic nuance, the godfather's despair in Wotan's great monologue from Act II of Die Walküre spoke directly to the listeners. A commanding stage presence instantly transformed the concert platform into an imaginary opera stage. Rich in every register, with completely seamless transitions."

17.01.2024 Josef Schmitt, Die Presse

Thomas Weinhappel – native of Lower Austria – has always set high standards for himself. Since his years with the Vienna Boys' Choir and later at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, from which he graduated with distinction as a Master of Arts, his natural optimism has fuelled his determination to shape the future and embrace formidable challenges.

Encouraged by Wagner specialist Stefan Mickisch, he used the enforced pause during the COVID pandemic to transition from a lyric to a Heroic baritone.

In 2017, he received two of the most prestigious Czech opera awards — the Thalia Award (Best Opera Singer of the Year) and the Libuška Award for the most exceptional role interpretation — for his lyrical Hamlet in Prague and Ostrava. He further impressed audiences as Escamillo (Singapore 2016), Figaro (2018), Tarquinius (Ostrava 2018), Don Giovanni (Paris 2020), and Marcello (Vienna 2022).

Particularly in German repertoire — Donner, Amfortas, Wolfram, Telramund, Klingsor, The Flying Dutchman, Wotan, Kaspar, Pizarro, Jochanaan, and Mandryka — he began, with tireless ambition, to reinvent himself artistically.

In July 2023, he appeared at the Klosterneuburg Festival (near Vienna) as Posa in Don Carlo, and in October 2023 at the National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA) in Beijing as Danilo in The Merry Widow.

In 2024, he made his Wagner Festival debut at the Sofia National Opera as Telramund (Lohengrin), followed by Kaspar (Der Freischütz) at the Eutin Festival in Germany — a role for which he had already received particular praise in Bremerhaven (Germany) in 2022.

In 2025, he sang Scarpia in Tosca at Bühne Baden (near Vienna), followed by Giorgio Germont in La Traviata at the Vienna Opera Summer 2025.

In the 2025/26 season, Weinhappel returns to the NCPA in Beijing as Count Danilo, with a live broadcast on Chinese television. He also deepens his work in the dramatic repertoire as "Meister Florian" in Schreker's opera *Das Spielwerk und die Prinzessin* at Oper Halle (Germany), followed by another major debut as *Macbeth* (Verdi) at the Heidenheim Opera Festival (Germany).