



THOMAS QUASTHOFF

Bass-Baritone

German bass-baritone Thomas Quasthoff is recognized as one of the most remarkable singers of his generation. A frequent guest of both the Berlin and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestras he appears regularly with the world's leading orchestras under such renowned conductors as Claudio Abbado, Daniel Barenboim, Bernard Haitink, Mariss Jansons, Kurt Masur, Seiji Ozawa, Sir Simon Rattle, Helmuth Rilling, Christian Thielemann and Franz Welser-Möst.

Thomas Quasthoff's début in 1995 at the Oregon Bach Festival laid the basis for his highly successful career in the USA. Having since returned numerous times for appearances with the most important orchestras and festivals, he regularly appears at New York's Carnegie Hall since his outstanding recital début there in January 1999 (WINTERREISE/Schubert).

In March 2003 Thomas Quasthoff gave his highly acclaimed opera début in the role of *Don Fernando*/FIDELIO with the Berlin Philharmonic under Sir Simon Rattle at the Salzburg Easter Festival. His remarkable début at the Vienna Staatsoper in the role of *Amfortas*/PARSIFAL under Donald Runnicles followed in the Spring of 2004. In January 2005 he returned to Vienna in the same role to perform under the baton of Sir Simon Rattle.

Highlights of the 2007/08 season include concerts with the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonic, Berliner Barocksolisten, Boston Symphony, Staatskapelle Dresden as well as a residency at London's Wigmore Hall and recitals in Berlin, Boston, at the Schubertiade festival in Schwarzenberg and at the Salzburg Festival. Duo recitals are to be given with Bernarda Fink in Düsseldorf and Dortmund as well as with Michael Schade in Schwarzenberg and Berlin.

As of 1999 Thomas Quasthoff has an exclusive recording contract with the Deutsche Grammophon Gesellschaft (DGG). Three of his CDs have received coveted „Grammy” awards: Mahler's LIEDER AUS DES KNABEN WUNDERHORN (together with Anne Sofie von Otter under Claudio Abbado), orchestrated Schubert Lieder (with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, also under Claudio Abbado), and, in spring 2006 for his Bach CANTATAS together with the Berlin Baroque Soloists.

Further recordings with DGG are Lieder by Brahms and Liszt (with pianist Justus Zeyen), Schubert's SCHWANENGESANG, Brahms's VIER ERNSTE GESÄNGE, a CD with Romantic German Lieder, German opera arias (with Christian Thielemann) and Mahler's LIEDER EINES FAHRENDEN GESELLEN (with the Vienna Philharmonic under Kurt Masur). In October 2005 he released Schubert's DIE

SCHÖNE MÜLLERIN (with accompanist Justus Zeyen) and a DVD with Schubert's WINTERREISE accompanied by Daniel Barenboim. Recently a CD with sacred Arias, called „Betrachte meine Seel" has been released and nominated for the Grammy. Together with Till Brönner he realised a jazz project which was on tour to New York, Vienna, Cologne and Berlin. It has also been released on CD and awarded the prestigious Echo prize.

Thomas Quasthoff began his vocal studies with Professor Charlotte Lehmann and Professor Huber-Contwig (musicology) in Hannover, Germany. His national and international music awards include among others the First Prize in the 1988 ARD International Music Competition Munich. Further prizes include the Shostakovich in 1996 (Moscow) and the Hamada Trust/Scotsman Festival Prize (Edinburgh International Festival, 1996).

The artist held a professorship at the vocal department of the Music Academy in Detmold, Germany since 1996, where he maintained a vigorous teaching schedule, before accepting a new position at the Hanns Eisler Music University in Berlin in the Fall of 2004. As of 2003 he holds the patronage of the foundation of „Children of Tschernobyl of Lower Saxony".

Thomas Quasthoff received from the President of the German Republic the Order of Merit in October 2005. One year later, he was awarded the European Culture Prize for Music at the Dresden Frauenkirche.

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