Christopher Ventris

Tenor

Considered one of Britain's most successful tenors, Christopher Ventris enjoys particular renown in the Wagnerian repertoire which has been central to his international career over the last two decades.

An acclaimed debut at Bayreuther Festspiele as Parsifal in Stefan Herheim’s new production, conducted by Daniele Gatti, was voted Production of the Year by *Opernwelt* magazine. This led to a number of other appearances in the role including Wiener Staatsoper under Franz Welser-Möst, Bayerische Staatsoper with Kent Nagano, Valencia’s Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia under the late Lorin Maazel, Dutch National Opera with Iván Fischer, the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden with Bernard Haitink, Opéra national de Paris under Hartmut Haenchen, and San Francisco Opera with Donald Runnicles. His portrayal of the role from Opernhaus Zürich, conducted by Bernard Haitink, was captured on DVD by Deutsche Grammophon.

Christopher Ventris sang his first Lohengrin at Teatro Comunale di Bologna, and has reprised the role at the Grand Théâtre de Genève, Teatro Real Madrid and The Dallas Opera - the latter earning him the Maria Callas Debut Artist of the Year Award. He has appeared as Siegmund (*Die Walküre*) in Vienna (under both Christian Thielemann and Sir Simon Rattle), Bayreuth, Washington, Venice, Amsterdam, Budapest, Naples and in his debut at Semperoper Dresden. Paris saw his role debut as Tannhäuser under Sir Mark Elder, and he sang his first Erik (*Der fliegende Holländer*) in San Francisco, as well as the title role in the lesser-performed *Rienzi* at the Salzburger Festspiele under Philippe Jordan.

Other key roles in Christopher’s repertoire include Peter Grimes which he has performed in Zürich and at Deutsche Oper Berlin, Florestan (*Fidelio*) which marked his debut at Washington National Opera, Sergei (*Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*) in Geneva, Madrid, London and Brussels, and Jimmy Mahoney (*Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny*) at the Staatsoper of both Berlin and Vienna. Števa in Janáček’s *Jenůfa* marked his debut at the Metropolitan Opera moving on to sing Laca in the acclaimed production by Dmitri Tcherniakov at Opernhaus Zürich. Further appearances include Max (*Der Freischütz*)at Opernhaus Zürich, Deutsche Oper Berlin and Teatro alla Scala, the title role in Pfitzner’s *Palestrina* at the Bayerische Staatsoper Munich, and Prince Andrey Khovansky (*Khovanshchina*) at Wiener Staatsoper and at the 2017 BBC Proms, both conducted by Semyon Bychkov.

The 2017/18 season includes Ventris’ debut at Staatsoper Hamburg as Florestan under Kent Nagano, a return to Zürich as Jimmy Mahoney under Fabio Luisi, and Parsifal, Siegmund and Lohengrin at Wiener Staatsoper under Semyon Bychkov, Ádám Fischer and Sebastian Weigle respectively.