

Ain Anger

Bass

Estonian bass Ain Anger is a regular presence on the world’s most celebrated operatic stages and was honoured as Kammersänger by the Austrian government in 2020. Since his house debut at Wiener Staatsoper as Monterone in *Rigoletto* in 2004, he has sung more than forty roles there including Dosifei in Mussorgsky’s *Khovanshchina* conducted by Semyon Bychkov, König Heinrich in a new *Lohengrin* with Christian Thielemann, Commendatore in Barrie Kosky’s new *Don Giovanni* under Philippe Jordan, and many of his key Italian roles including Filippo II (*Don Carlos*), Zaccaria (*Nabucco*), Fiesco (*Simone Boccanegra*) and Sparafucile (*Rigoletto*).

Ranked as one of today’s finest Wagnerian basses, Anger made his Bayreuth Festival debut as Fafner in *Das Rheingold* and *Siegfried* under Christian Thielemann, and his debut at Teatro alla Scala as Daland (*Der fliegende Holländer*) under Hartmut Haenchen. As Hunding, he has appeared in new *Ring Cycles* at Bayerische Staatsoper under Kent Nagano, Wiener Staatsoper under Franz Welser-Möst, Oper Frankfurt under Sebastian Weigle, Lyric Opera of Chicago under Sir Andrew Davis, and at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden under Sir Antonio Pappano. As Pogner (*Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*), Anger debuted at San Francisco Opera under Sir Mark Elder, and is a frequent guest of Deutsche Oper Berlin with whom he also appeared at the BBC Proms in *Tannhäuser* under Donald Runnicles. Recent seasons have brought further expansion of the repertoire with debuts as Hagen (*Götterdämmerung*) for the Canadian Opera Company conducted by Johannes Debus, and at the Edinburgh International Festival with Sir Andrew Davis, and as König Marke (*Tristan und Isolde*) for The Cleveland Orchestra under Franz Welser-Möst, and West Australian Symphony Orchestra under Asher Fisch released by ABC Classics.

Anger gave his acclaimed first performances as Boris Godunov in Richard Jones’ production at Deutsche Oper Berlin, the same production that marked his debut at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden in the role of Pimen. He made his anticipated debut at the Metropolitan Opera last season as Pimen under Sebastian Weigle, since returning as Gremin (*Eugene Onegin*). At Opéra national de Paris, he has appeared most recently in new productions of *Boris Godunov* and *Don Giovanni* and is a regular guest of Bayerische Staatsoper where he has sung several of his core roles as well as Cardinal Brogni in Halévy’s seldom-performed *La Juive* under Bertrand de Billy.

In concert, Anger’s recent appearances include Haydn’s *Nelson Mass* with Omer Meir Wellber and Münchner Philharmoniker, Verdi’s *Messa da Requiem* with Daniel Oren and Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, Beethoven’s Symphony No.9 with Gianandrea Noseda and Wiener Symphoniker and Mahler’s Symphony No.8 with Paavo Järvi and NHK Symphony Orchestra.

Ain Anger’s 2022/23 season includes new productions of *Boris Godunov* (Pimen) at Teatro alla Scala under Riccardo Chailly and of *Pélleas et Mélisande* (Arkel) at Santa Fe Opera under Harry Bicket, as well as revivals of *Tristan und Isolde* (König Marke) at Palau de les Arts Reina Sofiá with James Gaffigan and of *Don Giovanni*and Wagner’s *Ring Cycle* at Wiener Staatsoper under Antonello Manacorda  and Franz Welser-Möst respectively.  In concert, he joins Riccardo Chailly for Mahler’s Symphony No.8 at Teatro alla Scala and Aziz Shokhakimov for Verdi’s *Messa da Requiem* with Orchestre philharmonique de Strasbourg.