

DAVID KEMPSTER
Baritone



David Kempster was born in North Wales and studied at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

David joined English National Opera as a Principal Baritone in 1998, where his many roles included Marcello **La Bohème**, Lescaut **Manon Lescaut**, Conte di Luna **Il Trovatore**, Poacher **Cunning Little Vixen** and Teddy Foran in the world premiere of Mark Anthony Turnage's **The Silver Tassie**. David has since returned to ENO as Escamillo **Carmen**, Sharpless **Madama Butterfly**, Agamemnon **La Belle Hélène** and most recently Belcore **Elixir of Love**. A long and productive relationship with Welsh National Opera has seen David appear in the title role as **Don Giovanni**, **Guillaume Tell** and **Nabucco**, Nottingham **Roberto Devereux**, Riccardo Forth **I Puritani**, Thaos **Iphigenie en Tauride**, Marcello **La Bohème** and his hugely successful role debut as Iago **Otello**. Most recently, David appeared as Alfio / Tonio in WNO's double bill of **Cavalleria Rusticana / I Pagliacci** in celebration of the company's 70th anniversary.

Elsewhere in the UK, David has appeared at Glyndebourne as Escamillo **Carmen** and Falke **Die Fledermaus**; at Opera North as Iago, and Cecil **Maria Stuarda**; at Aldeburgh Festival as Balstrode in their acclaimed outdoor production of **Peter Grimes**, and at Buxton Festival as Nottingham, and Miller **Luisa Miller**. In the US, David made his debut as Sharpless with Dallas Opera, returning to sing Nottingham. He has also appeared as Lescaut **Manon Lescaut** for Florida Grand Opera. Recent performances include Marco **Gianni Schicci** at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, Sharpless **Madama Butterfly** for the Royal Danish Opera and Riccardo Forth **I Puritani** for Den Jyske Opera. David also appeared at the Royal Ballet in Will Tuckett's production of **Elizabeth** at the Linbury Studio, which was filmed for Sky Arts.

On the concert platform, David has performed with leading orchestras, including Fauré **Requiem** with BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Orff's **Carmina Burana** with London Concert Orchestra, Elgar's **The Apostles** with the Hallé and **Dream of Gerontius** with Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, and Handel's **Judas Maccabeus** with the London Mozart Players. He has appeared at the BBC Proms, National Eisteddfod of Wales, the Welsh Proms and the Machynlleth Festival. Recent performances include Peter **The Apostles** at the BBC Proms, and concert performances of **Aida** at the Royal Albert Hall, **Eugene Onegin** (Hallé/Mark Elder) and **Leonore** (Schlossfestspiele, Ludwigsburg). His recordings include Sévère in Donizetti's **Les Martyrs** for Opera Rara, chosen as Album of the Year at the 2016 International Opera Awards.

This season, David appears as **Don Giovanni** for Opera Theatre Company Dublin, as Igor **Prince Igor** for Chelsea Opera Group at Cadogan Hall, and returns to WNO as Sharpless **Madama Butterfly** on tour in the UK and Dubai.

This biography is valid for use until December 2016. We update our biographies regularly and ask that they are not altered without permission. For updated versions, please e-mail caroline.challis@hazardchase.co.uk

Main Office
25 City Road
Cambridge CB1 1DP, UK
Tel: +44 (0) 1223 312400
Fax: +44 (0) 1223 460827

Hazard Chase Limited, registered in England no. 2516014, VAT no. 538 5557 11
Member of the International Artist Managers' Association
Hazard Chase acts as agent only and can accept no responsibility as principal
info@hazardchase.co.uk www.hazardchase.co.uk

London Office
48-49 Russell Square
London WC1B 4JP, UK
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7636 5440
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7636 5115