



Nicolas Certenais, Bass

Born in Brest in 1982, Nicolas Certenais initially studied Philosophy before dedicating his career to music and specifically singing.

Following a Masters Degree in Philosophy, he joined the **Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris** in 2007 in baryton **Alain Buet**'s class, where he studies with Anne Le Bozec, Jeff Cohen, Olivier Reboul, Susan Manoff and Catherine Simonpietri. He often works with the ensemble *les Musiciens du Paradis* and frequently sings sacred music as a soloist bass singer. The singer's diverse repertoire includes Mozart's *Requiem* and *Messe de Couronnement*, Gounod's *Messe à Sainte-Cécile*, Haydn's *Harmoniemesse* and *Stabat Mater*, and many works by Bach (*Magnificat*, *Cantates*) and by Buxtehude. Comfortable in both classic, baroque repertory and contemporary art, he made his public debut as a soloist as Muphti in *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* by Lully in Brest, Brittany, France. Whilst Nicolas performed as Masetto from Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, he also sung the first and second misters in *Amour Masqué* in the auditorium in **Musée d'Orsay**, he also sung in *Nozze di Figaro* (as Antonio) in 2010 in Paris, **Cité de la Musique** (K. Weiss / E. Cordoliani).

Recently he has performed extracts from *Boris Godunov* (as Pimen) in the **Cité de la Musique**, extracts from Rossini at the **Théâtre du Châtelet** in December 2010. In 2011, he performs as Victor et Xavier in Reynaldo Hahn's *O Mon bel Inconnu* at the **Opera-Comique** and at the **Théâtre Impérial de Compiègne**. In March, Nicolas sung with great success Sarastro as well as the Sprecher in Mozart's *Magic Flute* at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris: he performed these roles again the following summer in open-air concerts in Brittany.

In Spring 2011, Nicolas also performed a programme of French operettes at the **Théâtre du Châtelet**, Paris. In Winter 2011, Nicolas has performed as the Commander in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* in Chaumont as well as in **Germany**. In february, he will sing some romantic lieder in **Thomas Quasthoff**'s Master Class in the **Cité de la Musique**, Paris. He will also sing in Glück 's *Echo and Narcissus*, Arkel in *Pelléas et Mélisande* (Debussy) and a recital of opera arias in Arles, in Spring 2012. Upcoming engagements include Doctor Grenvil (*Traviata*) and Sparafucile (*Rigoletto*) in 2013, Masetto in **Tours and Reims opera's houses** and Haly in *l'Italina in Algeri* at the **Theatre des Champs-Élysées** in 2014.

"Nicolas Certenais, an amazing bass" (Requiem de Mozart, *Le Télégramme* 2004)

"An impressive bass, Nicolas Certenais" (Récital, *Midi Libre*, 09/09/2007)

"We can only but notice (...) the potential of the bass soloist Nicolas Certenais." (*Ô mon bel inconnu*, Opera Comique, *Forum Opera*, 2011)

"The Antonio colorful and booming of Nicolas Certenais" (*Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Concertonet*, 2011)

"Nicolas Certenais war ein stattlicher Komtur" "Nicolas Certenais, an impressive Commendatore" (*Don Giovanni*, Dortmund, *Ruhr Nachrichten*, 5/12/2011)

"An amazing Bass voice (Thomas Quasthoff, 2012)

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