

Mikhail Timoshenko

Baritone

Praised for his “rare beauty of sound, powerful and balsamic at the same time” (*Tagesspiegel*), Mikhail Timoshenko is one of the most distinctive baritones of his generation – an artist equally at home on the world’s opera stages, concert halls, and in the intimate world of Lied.

Born in a small village in the Ural Mountains, he studied at the Hochschule für Musik Franz Liszt Weimar and the Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler Berlin with Michail Lanskoi. From 2015 to 2017 he was a member of the Académie de l’Opéra national de Paris, appearing in Jean-Stéphane Bron’s award-winning film *L’Opéra*. Winner of the **Bordeaux Médoc International Singing Competition**, the **Siemens Opera Contest**, the **AROP** and **Cercle Carpeaux Prizes** of the Paris Opera, and the **Maria Callas Grand Prix** (Greece), he quickly gained international recognition.

He has since appeared in leading roles across Europe, including **Ottokar** (*Der Freischütz*, Konzerthaus Berlin); **Albert** (*Werther*) and **Prosdócimo** (*Il turco in Italia*, Opéra de Lausanne); **Leporello** (*Don Giovanni*, Glyndebourne Festival); **Marcello** (*La bohème*, Royal Opera House Covent Garden); **Shchelkalov** (*Boris Godunov*, Théâtre du Capitole de Toulouse); **Belcore** (*L’Elisir d’amore*, Opéra de Nancy); **Taddeo** (*L’Italiana in Algeri*, Théâtre des Champs-Élysées); and **Papageno** (*Die Zauberflöte*, Opéra Bastille and Opéra de Montpellier). He also created the title role in **Alexandre Desplat’s *En Silence*** at the Philharmonie Luxembourg and later at the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord in Paris.

On the concert stage, he has collaborated with **Teodor Currentzis**, **Philippe Herreweghe**, **Manfred Honeck**, **Markus Poschner**, **Emmanuelle Haïm**, and **Martin Haselböck**, performing at the **Musikverein Wien**, the **Salzburg Festival**, the **Bergen International Festival**, the **Festspielhaus Baden-Baden**, the **Berliner Philharmonie**, and the **Konzerthaus Berlin**.

Together with pianist **Elitsa Desseva**, he forms one of today’s most acclaimed Lied duos, praised as “a duo of exception that enchants the audience” (*Webtheatre*). Winners of the **International Chamber Music Competition ‘Franz Schubert and Modern Music’** (Graz), the **International Hugo Wolf Academy Competition** (Stuttgart) and the **Wigmore Hall / Independent Opera Song Competition** (London), they have appeared at Wigmore Hall, Konzerthaus Berlin, Brucknerhaus Linz, Musée d’Orsay (Paris), the Hugo Wolf Academy, and the festivals Heidelberger Frühling, Sommerliche Musiktage Hitzacker, and Boswiler Frühling.

His recordings include *Mozart Masses* (Naxos), *Im wachen Traume* (ECM), and *Une nouvelle fête baroque* (Erato). Duo Timoshenko-Desseva recorded Jacques Ibert’s *Quatre chansons de Don Quichotte* (B-Records), and in 2024 they released the critically acclaimed album *Eduard Erdmann: Lieder* (Hänssler Classic). Mikhail’s performances are featured on **BBC Radio 3**, **SWR**, **WDR** and **Medici TV**.

Philanthropy is a theme close to his heart: since 2009, he has given charity concerts for children with mental disabilities in Russia, working with the organizations Touch (Orenburg) and Majak (Orsk).