

Pruvot, Pierre-Yves - Baritone

Biography



Pierre-Yves Pruvot is French artist fascinated by rediscovery forgotten or unknown works of a repertoire ranging from music of the 17th century to contemporary creation.

His **roles on stage** include the major roles of the repertoire: **Scarpia, Gianni Schicchi, Jago, Germont, Nabucco, Figaro, Leporello, Don Alfonso** and **Méphistophélès** (Berlioz).

Pruvot's vocal and dramatic qualities are particularly sought **for French and Italian operatic works of the 19th and 20th centuries**: Russian premiere of Debussy's opera Rodrigue et Chimene with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, doing the title role in Milhaud's Bolivar in the first fully staged version since the creations of the work with the Orquesta Sinfónica Simón Bolívar in Caracas, roles in Meyerbeer's L'Africaine in its original full version in Chemnitz and Mascagni's Iris in Trieste under the baton of maestro Nello Santi.

Modern recreations followed by recordings include Amadis de Gaule by Johann Christian Bach in Prague, La Mort d'Abel by Kreutzer in Liège, Céphale et Procris by Grétry at the Royal Opera of Versailles, Lodoïska by Cherubini at Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris, Teatro La Fenice in Venice and Parco della musica in Rome, Salieri's Falstaff under the baton of Jean-Claude Malgoire or Mathilde de Guise by Hummel in Bratislava.

His **discography includes** a large number of recordings with orchestra devoted to Bizet, Massenet, Meyerbeer, Paladilhe, Saint-Saëns, Gounod, Thomas, Halévy, Franc, Séverac or Monsigny, Paër, Leseuer, Dalayrac, Rameau, Grétry and Gossec.

Mr. Pruvot has also been exploring for a long time the repertoire of **French art song and lied** with pianist Charles Bouisset. Together they have given recitals throughout Europe and recorded works by Poulenc, Sauguet, Ravel, Chabrier, Duparc, Brahms, Rachmaninov and many other composers. Pierre-Yves Pruvot has also recorded with the Manfred and the Debussy Quartets. He is the dedicatee and the creator of numerous contemporary works.

Pruvot is a **prize-winner** of the international competitions of s'Herogenbosch (1998), Paris (1999) and Queen Elizabeth (2000). He is founder of the publishing house Symétrie (Lyon).

Repertoire

Opera			Symphonic/Oratorio	
Alfano, F.	Cyrano de Bergerac	<i>Ragueneau</i>	Bach, J.S.	Johannes-Passion
Amy, G.	Le Premier Cercle	<i>General Oskoloupov</i>		Matthaus-Passion
		<i>Klimentiev</i>		Weihnachtsoratorium
Berlioz, H.	Beatrice et Benedict	<i>Somarone</i>		Messe h-moll
	La Damnation de Faust	<i>Mephistopheles</i>	Bach, C.Ph.E.	Magnificat
Bizet, G.	Carmen	<i>Escamillo</i>		Die Israeliten in der Wüste
	Le Docteur Miracle	<i>Le Podestat</i>	Bethoven, L. van	Magnificat
	Les Pecheurs de Perles	<i>Zurga</i>		9th Symphony
	Don Procopio	<i>Ernesto</i>	Berlioz, H.	La Damnation de Faust
Cherubini, L.	Lodoiska	<i>Dourlinsky</i>		Lelio ou Le Retour a la vie
Cimarosa, D.	Il Maestro di capella	<i>Il Maestro</i>	Brahms, J.	Messe Solennelle
Debussy, C.	Pelleas et Melisande	<i>Golaud</i>	Chousson, E.	Ein deutsches requiem
Donizetti, G.	L'elisir d'amore	<i>Belcore</i>	De Mars, J.	Poeme de l'amour et la mer
	Don Pasquale	<i>Dotore Malatesta</i>	Durufle, M.	An American Requiem
	Rita	<i>Gasparo</i>		Missa Cum Jubilo
	Viva la mamma	<i>Procolo</i>	Dvorak, A.	Requiem
Gluck, Ch.W.	Iphigenie en Tauride	<i>Thoas/Oreste</i>		Biblicke pisne
Gretry, A.E.M.	Cephale et Procris	<i>Cephale</i>	Faure, G.	Stabat Mater
Hahn, R.	Le Marchand de Venise	<i>Shylock</i>	Francaix, J.	Requiem
Haydn, J.	Il Mondo della Luna	<i>Bounafede</i>	Francaix, J.	L'apocalypse selon Saint-Jean
	L'anima del filosofo	<i>Creonte</i>	Handel, G.F.	Messiah
Mascagni, P.	Iris	<i>Kyoto</i>	Haydn, J.	Die Jahreszeiten
Massenet, J.	Werther	<i>Le Bailli</i>		Die Schopfung
Meyerbeer, G.	L'africaine	<i>Nelusko</i>		Paukenmesse
Milhaud, D.	Bolivar	<i>SimonBolivar</i>	Hummel, J.N.	Der Durchzug durchs Rote Meer
Mussorgsky, M.	Boris Godunov	<i>Shchelkalov</i>	Liszt, F.	Christus
Mozart, W.A.	Cosi fan tutte	<i>Guglielmo, Don Alfonso</i>	Martin, F.	Sechs Monologe aus Jedermann
	Don Giovanni	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	Massenet, J.	La Terre Promise
	Zaide	<i>Allazin</i>	Mendelssohn, F.	Elias
Paisiello, G.	Il barbiere di Siviglia	<i>Figaro</i>		Die Erste Walpurgisnacht Servise
Poulenc, F.	Les Mamelles de Tiresias	<i>Le directeur</i>	Milhaud, D.	Marie-Magdaleine
		<i>Le Gendarme</i>	Nunes Garcia, J.M.	Sacre pour le Samedi Matin
Puccini, G.	Gianni Schicchi	<i>Gianni Schicchi</i>	Musorgsky, M.	Missa de Santa Cecilia
	Tosca	<i>Scarpia</i>	Orff, C.	Songs and Dances of Death
Rameau, J.Ph.	Les Surprises de l'amour	<i>Apollon, Bacchus</i>	Rossini, G.	Carmina Burana
Rossini, G.	Ciro in Babilonia	<i>Deniele</i>	Telemann, G.Ph.	Petite Messe Solennelle
	Il barbiere di Siviglia	<i>Figaro</i>		Trauer-Kantate
	La Scala di Seta	<i>Germano</i>		
Saint-Seans, C.	Samson et Dalila	<i>Le Grand Pretre de Dagon</i>		
Salieri, A.	Falstaff	<i>Falstaff</i>		
Strauss, O.	Die Lustige Nibelungen	<i>Gunther</i>		
Tchaikovsky, P.	Eugene Onegin	<i>Onegin</i>		
Ullmann, V.	Der Kaiser von Atlantis	<i>Kaiser Overall</i>		
Verdi, G.	Un ballo in maschera	<i>Renato</i>		
	Nabucco	<i>Nabucco</i>		
	Otello	<i>Jago</i>		
	Rigoletto	<i>Rigoletto</i>		
	La traviata	<i>Giorgio Germont</i>		

Reviews

Scarpia/Tosca, Puccini, G. (2013)

The fine surprise comes from Pierre-Yves Pruvot, who stepped in at the last minute as Scarpia. Pruvot is treachery incarnate, the most abject, Machiavellian baseness. With a virtuosic cynicism, he combines all the slyness of the character, all the subtleties and the incredible palette of shadings required by the psychology of such a manipulative monster. His Scarpia is so devilish in his lower register — as solid as bronze, confident in its capacity to harm, with an implacable rectitude of tone and a wealth of shadings. This lower register gives his voice an extroverted theatrical grain that never compromises the musicality of the role: a subtle balance between bestial sensuality and perfidy, literally fascinating in its lowness.

- Roland Duclos, *Forum Opéra*

Nélusko/Vasco de Gama, Meyerbeer, G. (2013)

To my mind, the prize for the most convincing performance goes to French baritone Pierre-Yves Pruvot, to whom we owe a Nélusko of exceptional class. This artist has a magnificent voice and a sound technique that enable him to master the vocal difficulties of the role almost effortlessly. He is also a true actor who plays out no less impressively both his hatred for foreigners and his true love for his mistress.

- Joachim Weise, *Der Neue Merker*

The man at her side — her devoted lover — is Nélusko, certainly the most active role in the plot. His character, somewhere between the faithful servant, the dedicated lover, the cunning and deliberately barbarous intriguer, between victim and culprit, is in the best of hands with Pierre-Yves Pruvot. He rises to heights of theatricality with his acting skills and his very versatile voice.

- Jens Daniel Schuber, *Sächsische Zeitung*

On the quiet, the star of the evening is the slave Nélusko, who gets the action moving. Pierre-Yves Pruvot acts with great intensity, dominating the stage and moving even the sea with his legendary spirits.

- Marianne Schultz, *Freie Presse*

Nélusko, held captive with [Séluka], whom he loves, is rendered by Pierre-Yves Pruvot as a sort of archaic, compulsive and impulsive creature, with an aura of invincibility, to which the French baritone does full justice, both as an actor and as a singer.

- Michael Ernst, *Neue Musikzeitung*

On the other hand, perhaps the best character of the evening was Nélusko, played superbly by Pierre-Yves Pruvot, who at once became truly the centre of attention.

- Eske Bockelmann, *Stadtstreicher*

Gianni Schicchi, Puccini, G. (2012)

Pierre-Yves Pruvot is a great Schicchi, with a sonorous, round, well-placed voice and a strong stage presence. He leads the action with stupendous assurance.

- Jean-Luc Macia, *Opéra magazine*

The good-natured ogre embodied by Pierre-Yves Pruvot as Gianni Schicchi: Puccini clearly intended the role for him.

- Jean-Marie Duhamel, *La Voix du Nord*

Petite Messe solennelle, Rossini, G. (2012)

The composer appears on stage on better form than ever — a quite fascinating hedonist and gourmet, and a chef-cum-singer (even doing the cooking: Pierre-Yves Pruvot is splendid, outdoing Rossini himself in his portraits) — beside his two female companions and his contemporaries Auber and Meyerbeer.

- Alexandre Pham, *Classiquenews*

Germano/La Scala di seta, Rosinni, G. (2011_)

The best role Rossini has to offer goes to Germano, sung exceptionally by Pierre-Yves Pruvot. With his precise diction, strong voice, perfect understanding of the text and fine sense of fun, the baritone makes the very best of this character, bringing out his amusing gullibility and awkwardness, but also the touching side of him, because he is so genuinely in love.

- *Brigitte Cormier, Forum Opéra*

Pierre-Yves Pruvot works wonders and blunders as Germano. Disguised as a hat-stand in a sitting room, or as a pedestal table with a doily on his head, as if nothing could be more natural, intoxicated by the wine or moved by his young mistress who assigns him missions that are too difficult, with his baritone voice he renders all the nuances, and his acting is amazing.

- *Paul K'ros, Liberté Hebdo*

And especially Germano — Pierre-Yves Pruvot. The baritone, who has been singing regularly with Jean-Claude Malgoire for years now and is today in great demand on European stages, is hilarious, expert at playing to the gallery. He emerges as the clear winner, judging by the applause — and deservedly so.

- *Jean-Marie Duhamel, La Voix du Nord*

Dourlinski/Lodoïska, Cherubini, L. (2010)

As for baritone Pierre-Yves Pruvot, he is quite simply brilliant as the tyrant Dourlinski. As soon as he enters, he has the audience riveted, with just a few simple lines. At last a singer who can speak a text like a true actor! And what declamation in his singing! Not a word is lost, and his exemplary delivery never hampers the singing line nor affects the legato. Well-versed in the art of the French *mélodie* and the German *lied*, he knows the impact of words. He is a great singer on the operatic stage, where his presence and generous tone work wonders. So Cherubini's music suddenly comes to life, and an aria that, on the face of it, looks unpromising turns out to be captivating. Well done indeed!

- *Marcel Quillévé, Forum opéra*

Dourlinski is portrayed by Pierre-Yves Pruvot — needless to say, he is excellent! Touchy, bloody in both speech and disposition, Pruvot, with his powerful, colourful voice, sings with incredible fluency: the eloquence with which he launches the Act II quartet, "Non, non, perdez cette espérance", for example, shows a singer who is thoroughly familiar with this repertoire.

- *Sébastien Gauthier, Concertonet*

The cruel Dourlinski is portrayed with gusto by the baritone Pierre-Yves Pruvot, who seems to take a contagious pleasure in embodying to the point of parody this villain, with his forceful, sonorous voice and strong dramatic impact.

- *Nicolas Grienberger, Classiquenews*

With his usual impeccable style and wonderful delivery, Pierre-Yves Pruvot portrays this wicked character with gusto.

- *Catherine Scholler, Resmusica*

Céphale/Céphale et Procris, Grétry, A. E. M. (2009)

Pierre-Yves Pruvot sings Céphale. His voice and his appearance are impressive. He is living proof that a baritone capable of tackling the great nineteenth-century French operatic roles is also welcome in this repertoire.

- *Jacques Bonnaure, Opéra magazine*

Golaud/Pelléas et Mélisande, Debussy, C. (2009)

Pierre-Yves Pruvot's tone and stature make him an imposing Golaud, haunted by his passions.

- *Christian Fruchart, Dernières Nouvelles d'Alsace*

Pierre-Yves Pruvot is truly worthy of esteem as Golaud; his voice is amazingly solid, and he embodies his

character with a rare force of conviction.

- *José Pons, Opéra international*

Scarpia/Tosca, Puccini, G. (2008)

Pierre-Yves Pruvot, as Scarpia, is completely at his ease. A great performance as a singer, and a great performance as an actor.

- *Jean-Marie Duhamel, La Voix du Nord*

Pierre-Yves Pruvot brilliantly portrays Scarpia as a *grand seigneur* with elegant manners and depraved morals. This aristocratic nature shows too in his highly stylish and very classical singing, with sharp delivery and a power such that he never has to resort to shouting, despite the fierceness of the character.

- *Richard Letawe, Classiqueinfo*

Zurga/Les Pêcheurs de perles, Bizet, G. (2008)

The voice is dark, powerful and, generally speaking, quite comfortable in the extreme notes, sung sonorously and with ease.

- *Paolo Bullo, Opera Click*

Baritone Pierre-Yves Pruvot took the opportunity to unleash all his power.

- *Dejan Bozovic, Il Gazzettino*

We are fascinated by baritone Pierre-Yves Pruvot's delivery and smooth inflections.

- *Claudio Gherbitz, Il Piccolo*

Figaro/Il Barbiere di Siviglia, Rossini, G. (2005)

The cast is dominated by Pierre-Yves Pruvot's well-rounded Figaro, with a timbre as enthralling as ever, sharp delivery, vocal agility, a brilliant upper register and, especially, great vocal fluency and phenomenal projection.

- *Richard Letawe, Resmusica*

RECORDINGS

Dourlinski/Lodoïska, Cherubini, L. (2013)

The tyrant Dourlinski suits Pierre-Yves Pruvot down to the ground: he just loves villainous roles (I'd like to see him as Gaveston in Boieldieu's *La Dame blanche*). And what beautiful phrasing!

- *Bruno Peeters, Crescendo magazine*

Aracalaüs/Amadis de Gaule, Bach, J. S. (2012)

Pierre-Yves Pruvot easily outshines his partners: his Aracalaüs, with his generous, powerful voice, his rich tone, captures the full stature of the sorcerer and portrays a malevolent yet appealing character.

- *Michel Parouty, Diapason*

Pierre-Yves Pruvot's Aracalaüs is quite simply exceptional: a hate-inspiring brother, an untiring goad to the vocally rich and vehement Arcabonne, sung by his offstage wife, Hjördis Thébault.

- *Benjamin Ballifh, Classiquenews*

Adam/La Mort d'Abel, Kreutzer, R. (2012)

Pierre-Yves Pruvot is an awe-inspiring Adam. His thundering baritone immerses the audience in the fateful role of the father of all men. We recognize the ingenious, faultless prosody and the incomparable musicality that were such a delight in the recital he gave at Versailles in 2008.

- *Pedro-Octavio Diaz, Muse baroque*

Pierre-Yves Pruvot is the great winner. With his warm, powerful voice, superb tone and seasoned sense of

declamation (just listen to his “Charmant séjour, lieux solitaires”, half-dramatic, half-heroic, in Act I), he gives a perfectly impeccable performance.

- Sébastien Gauthier, *Concertonet*

Patrie ! Duos d'opéras romantiques français (2012)

Patrie ! Duets from French Romantic Opera (2012)

A remarkable release: a real lesson in singing for the benefit of a neglected French repertoire. Thanks first of all to the performers: both have the power and the brilliance required for such works, probably neglected for want of suitable singers. Pierre-Yves Pruvot proves himself the worthy heir of the heroic-baritone tradition that he perpetuates with his colleagues Fondary and Rouillon, among others. Thanks to these exceptional singers and their talent and perfect elocution, the French Romantic repertoire is taken to impressive heights.

- Bruno Peeters, *Crescendo magazine*

The husband-and-wife team of Hjördis Thébault et Pierre-Yves Pruvot provides eloquent advocacy of all this music, finding both the lighter touch for Thomas's orientalism and the extrovert expressivity for more dramatic excerpts.

- Carlos Maria Solare, *Opera*

Variety and versatility are the key words here, with the two performers having a field day, showing splendid vocal valiance and vigour, enabling them to serve this neglected repertoire with a conviction unreservedly shared by the listener. The couple felicitously prove how many unsuspected and insufficiently explored marvels remain to be discovered in nineteenth-century French opera. Recordings such as theirs bear witness to this and are indispensable.

- Jean Lacroix, *La Revue générale*

Adopting the appropriate style, the couple shine in these numbers truly worthy of interest: an ornate, vibrant, expressive voice on the one hand, and one that is robust, elegant and imposing on the other.

- Sébastien Foucart, *Concertonet*

The singers pay here the finest of tributes to the French Romantic opera style: the pure intonation, the constant concern for articulation and natural projection are obvious arguments to which it is difficult to remain indifferent.

- Ernst Van Bek, *Classiquenews*

Here is an invaluable recording of a Romantic repertory that has been largely forgotten today. By exceptional artists, with broad lyricism and clear delivery.

- Francis Cousté, *L'Éducation musicale*

Hjördis Thébault and Pierre-Yves Pruvot fly here to the rescue of a noble cause, an endangered body of masterworks: nineteenth-century French Romantic opera, with its purely French tone, its sharp, clear, lofty diction, its pure, natural distinction at the service of the music and the words. The other miracle of this recording is the line, the phrase. Pierre-Yves Pruvot has that incredible breath control inherited from the likes of Massard and Blanc.

- Christian Colombeau, *Sortir ici et ailleurs*

The baritone's voice is beautifully textured, rich, sharp, with effortless and strictly controlled emission. Both singers share a precious quality: clear diction.

- Michel Parouty *Diapason*

A baritone whose diction and style are impeccable, at ease throughout his range, perfectly suited to noble roles, but also capable of stepping down to a character such as Michel in *Le Caïd*.

- Laurent Bury, *Forum Opéra*

Falstaff/Falstaff, Salieri, A. (2003)

Best is baritone Pierre-Yves Pruvot as a colorful Falstaff who sings without mugging but pays close attention to shadings and accents.

- *Robert Levine, ClassicsToday.com*

Pierre-Yves Pruvot's Falstaff is delightfully larger than life.

- *Jean-Claude Lacroix, Opéra international*

Pierre-Yves Pruvot is a traditional, larger-than-life Falstaff with plenty of vocal energy.

- *George Hall, Opera*