

Zoltán Nyári's unique career eventually embraces every area genre of musical theatre.

The Hungarian tenor, who has recently appeared with great success at the Semperoper in Dresden (*Rusalka*, *Carmen*), in the Oper Frankfurt (*Rusalka*), in the Oper Graz (*Die tote Stadt*), in the Royal Danish Opera (Hofmann's tales) and at the Komische Oper in Berlin (*Duchess of Chicago*, *Circus Princess* and *The Vampire*), has been trained as a violinist from a very young age. He then embarked upon a career as a prose actor at the age of 18.

He earned a degree as a prose actor from the University of Theatre and Film Arts in Budapest.

During his college years, he sang in the choir of the Saint Stephen's Basilica in Budapest and pursued classical training as a singer.

He signed his first contract with the Budapest Operetta Theatre, where he initially performed in musicals such as *Miss Saigon*. Within a few years, he had become the Budapest Operetta Theatre's leading *bon vivant* and performed in the main roles of various operetta productions more than 400 times. Not forgetting his roots, he continued to appear at the most important theatres in the Hungarian provinces (in Szeged, Győr, Szolnok, Miskolc and Debrecen), while participating in numerous tours in Germany, Austria, Japan and other Asian countries.

In 2005, the Hungarian State recognised his work with a Jászai Mari Award.

That year marked an important point in his career, and not simply because of his award. It was also the time of his debut at the Hungarian State Opera House.

From that point on the opera had redefined the course of his career.

He has thoughtfully built up a repertoire, gradually moving from lyric roles to heroic tenor characters.

From Mozart to Verdi and Puccini, he has reaped plenty of success – not only in well-known tenor roles, but in the so-called "interesting category" and in Slavic operas as well. His career highlights as an opera singer include Tamino, Belmonte, Rodolphe, Cavaradossi, Hofmann, Jim Mahoney, Sergei from *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, the prince from *Rusalka*, Lensky, Don José, Turiddu and Werther.

It is a testament to his powerful stage presence (which he has preserved, undiminished, in his opera roles, too) that on the very first occasion of the Mezzo Opera Competition, in 2009, he was chosen on the strength of two roles (Matthew from the opera *Emmeline*, which he sang in New York, and the lead role from the *Last Day of the Condemned Man* in Debrecen). At the final held in October in Szeged, he won both Best Male Performance and the Audience Choice Award.

At the Hungarian State Opera House, he has received the Simándy and Melis Awards (named after his great predecessors) for his singing accomplishments.

He has sung in opera houses abroad continuously since 2011.

In 2014, he received international press coverage when he leapt into the role of Paul in Erich Wolfgang Korngold's *Die tote Stadt* for a premiere in Graz.

Beginning in 2015, Zoltán Nyári has begun to capture a series of Wagner roles. His appearance as Erik in *The Flying Dutchman* at Budapest's Palace of Arts was followed by the

male lead in *Tristan and Isolde* in the autumn of 2016 in Graz, Siegmund in *Walküre* in 2017, and Siegfried in 2018.

Zoltán Nyári's time spent in the choir at Saint Stephen's Basilica's in Budapest has left a lasting impression on him, so in addition to special concerts and theatrical events, he has been able to acquire a growing repertoire of significant sacred music.