

CARLTON FORD

BARITONE

American baritone **Carlton Ford**, acclaimed by Paris' *Regard En Coulisse* for his "generous vocal power," is a graduate of both The Juilliard School and Rice University. Mr. Ford's 2012/13 season saw debuts with the **New York Philharmonic**, **Crested Butte Music Festival** as Kaiser Overall in Victor Ullmann's *Der Kaiser von Atlantis*, and Paris' **Le Théâtre du Châtelet** as Dewain in John Adams' *I Was Looking At The Ceiling And Then I Saw The Sky*. During his 2013/14 season, Carlton will debut with the New York Philharmonic's **Alan Gilbert** in HK Gruber's *Gloria - A Pig's Tale* in May 2014, and as Harlekin in **Glimmerglass Festival's** production of *Ariadne auf Naxos*.

In the 2011/12 season, Carlton made his **Houston Grand Opera** debut as Fiorello in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and sang John in the world premiere of Houston Grand Opera's *New Arrivals*. Other highlights included his debut on **PBS' 'Great Performances'** series. The PBS broadcast marked his Carnegie Hall debut during the 2008 opening night gala, *A Celebration of Leonard Bernstein*, under the baton of Michael Tilson Thomas, alongside Yo-Yo Ma, Dawn Upshaw and Thomas Hampson, which was filmed for PBS and released on DVD. Carlton can also be seen and heard on the Emmy nominated **Live from Lincoln Center's** broadcast of *Carousel* with the New York Philharmonic, and the Oscar nominated **HBO** series *Masterclass* with Plácido Domingo.

In previous seasons, he has sung Marcello in *La bohème* under George Manahan and Fiorello in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* under Josep Caballé-Domenech at the **Aspen Music Festival**. While studying at Rice University and The Juilliard School, Carlton sang Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte*, Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Marcello in *La bohème*, and Ottone in *L'incoronazione di Poppea*. Other operatic credits include Voltore in Musto's *Volpone* as a guest artist at Rice University and Mercutio in *Roméo et Juliette* with the **Southern Illinois Festival**. During three seasons as a Gerdine Young Artist at the **Opera Theatre of St. Louis** Carlton sang Cappadocian in *Salome*, Uncle Yakuside in *Madama Butterfly* and covered Schaunard in *La bohème*, Lisargo in *Una cosa rara*, Yashvin in *Anna Karenina* and Pish-Tush in *The Mikado*. As a member of the Chautauqua Voice Program he appeared as Dancaïro in *Carmen* and Hermann in *Les contes d'Hoffmann* at the **Chautauqua Institute**.

Carlton has also been heard as soloist in the Brahms and Fauré *Requiems* as well as Dubois' *Seven Last Words of Christ* and Handel's *Messiah*. He has appeared in recital with Brian Zeger, Mikael Eliassen, and regularly performs with Steven Blier, Michael Barrett and the **New York Festival of Song**. Carlton has been a featured soloist with the **Da Camera Ensemble** and the **Bach Society of Houston**. Carlton sang with the Bach Society of Houston in Cantatas *234* and *20*, recorded for National Public Radio Houston.

Carlton was a finalist in Houston Grand Opera's 2012 **Eleanor McCollum Competition**, and a recipient of both First Place and Grand Prize in Chicago's 2011 **Bel Canto Foundation Competition**.

A native of Chicago, Illinois, Carlton is a studio artist with the **Florida Grand Opera**.

(Long version: (517 words) - Updated January 2014)

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