

Michael Axelsson – Lyric Tenor
Bio long version 2020

Michael Axelsson studied at the University College of Opera and the Royal College of Music in Stockholm. Since his debut as Don Curzio in the Marriage of Figaro at Drottningholms Slottsteater in 2006, Michael has sung a wide variety of roles ranging from the Mozart repertoire like Tamino in the Magic Flute and Ferrando in *Così fan tutte*, over Bel canto roles like Conte Almaviva in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and Ernesto in *Don Pasquale*, to character roles like Kolomán Zsupán in the Operetta *Gräfin Mariza* and Remendado in *Carmen*.

The different productions took him to opera houses like Norrlandsoperan, Dalhalla Opera, Drottningholms Slottsteater, Smålandsoperan, Opera på Skäret and BAM in New York, working with conductors like Manfred Honeck, Stefan Solyom, Fredrik Malmberg, Eric Ericson, Tõnu Kaljuste, Gintaras Rinkevičius, Michele Carulli, Roderich Kreile. During 2010-2012, Michael was a member of the soloist ensemble at Landesbühnen Sachsen in Dresden, where he sang for example Tamino in *The Magic Flute* and Fenton in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (Nicolai). In 2007 he was a laureate at Kammeroper Schloß Reihnsberg in Germany singing Dr. Cajus in Verdi's *Falstaff*.

In Concert Michael has a very wide repertoire, including all major works by Bach, Haydn and Mozart, many by Händel, Dvořák and Mendelssohn but also more modern music like *Saint Nicolas* and *Serenade* by Britten, *La Passione (Evangelist I)* by Bartolucci, *Choralpassion (Evangelist)* by Distler and *Passio (Pilate)* by Pärt, as well as early music pieces like *Charpentier Te Deum* and *Le reniement de Saint-Pierre*, *André Campra Requeim*, *Heinrich Schütz Auferstehungshistorie* and *Die Sieben Worte Jesu* and *Monteverdi Vespro della Beata Vergine*. One of his specialties is singing the Evangelist Parts in the Passions by Bach.

His Lieder repertoire spans whole cycles and songs by Britten, Schubert, Schumann, Strauss, Tosti, Stenhammar, Peterson-Berger, Alfvén, Nordqvist and Sjögren. Michael has premiered several pieces of new music and in the Autumn of 2018 he sang the Actor Jof in the opera "The Seventh Seal" by João MacDowell (based on the Film by Ingmar Bergman) in the concert first performance in Brazil, with the International Brazilian Opera Company (IBOC).