



KHANYISO GWENXANE **TENOR**

Khanyiso Gwenxane will make his US debut at Opera Philadelphia singing the title role in Rossini's *Otello* at the beginning of the 2022/23 season, which will see his role debuts as Nadir in Bizet's *Les pêcheurs de perles* and Ernesto in Donizetti's *Don Pasquale* at Musiktheater im Revier in Gelsenkirchen, Germany. In May 2022, the tenor performed Admeto in Gluck's *Alceste* at Bayreuth's Markgräfliches Opernhaus during the International Gluck Festival.

Khanyiso Gwenxane was born in South Africa and started a promising career after reaching the final of the renowned Belvedere Singing Competition in 2014. He discovered his love for music at the age of six as a boy soprano in the school choir. He sang in various national singing competitions and after leaving school became a member of Portobello Productions, an international production company that toured worldwide with a South African version of Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, in which he performed the role of Impempe Yomlingo in London's West End in 2007 and 2008. From 2009 he studied singing with a focus on opera at Tshwane University of Technology in Pretoria with Pierre du Toit. He continued his vocal training at the South African College of Music in Cape Town with George Stevens and Kamal Khan, successfully finishing his studies in 2014 with a postgraduate diploma. As part of a scholarship, he supplemented his musical training with a master's degree in opera at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

While still a student, the young South African tenor sang Chevalier Belfiore in Rossini's *Il viaggio a Reims* and Don Ottavio in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. He made his debut at Kungliga Operan in Stockholm in 2016 as Ferrando in Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, followed by his role debut as Nemorino in Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore* at the New Generation Festival in Florence in 2017. In 2018, he made his debut at Staatstheater Braunschweig as Tito in a new production of Mozart's *La clemenza di Tito*. Khanyiso Gwenxane has worked with directors such as David Bösch, Jürgen Flimm, Dietrich Hilsdorf, Manuel Schmitt, Michael Schulz, Keith Warner and Matthew Wilde.

Khanyiso Gwenxane has been a member of the ensemble at Musiktheater im Revier in Gelsenkirchen since the 2018/19 season, where his repertoire includes Don José in Bizet's *Carmen*, Medoro in Haydn's *Orlando Paladino*, Janek in Janáček's *Makropulos Case*, Lensky in Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* and Froh in Wagner's *Das Rheingold* as well as in the title roles in Orfeo in Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* and Rossini's *Otello*. In 2022, he returned to Semperoper Dresden, where he was a member of the Young Ensemble from 2016 to 2018.

As a concert soloist Khanyiso Gwenxane has sung Beethoven's *Symphony N° 9*, Handel's *Messiah*, Haydn's *Nelson Mass*, Mendelssohn's *Lobgesang*, and Schubert's *Magnificat in C*.

Khanyiso Gwenxane has performed, accompanied by orchestras including Dresdner Philharmonie, Kungliga Hovkapellet Stockholm, Neue Philharmonie Westfalen, Orchester opery Divadlo Josefa Kajetána Tyla Plzen, Staatskapelle Dresden, and Staatsorchester Braunschweig and has sung under the baton of conductors including Jonathan Darlington, Srba Dinić, Michael Hofstetter, Marek Janowski, Tomáš Netopil, Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Lawrence Renes, Ivan Repušić, Valteri Rauhalampi, and Omer Meir Wellber.

Khanyiso Gwenxane's discography includes a recording of Puccini's *Il tabarro* with the Dresdner Philharmonie conducted by Marek Janowski.