

## VOJTĚCH PELKA

Vojtěch Pelka is a countertenor of the current young opera generation and a pioneer of the countertenor field in the Czech Republic. He graduated from the Jan Deyl Conservatory in Prague in the singing class of Prof. Barbora Kložová Velehradská, with whom he continues his vocal training. He has successfully participated in a number of international singing competitions. His most significant competition successes include the Audience Award, which he won at the Cesti Competition 2024 in Innsbruck, Austria, and 2nd place with a special prize for the interpretation of a Mozart aria from the Competition of Conservatories of the Czech Republic 2019.

His first major operatic role came in the 2019/20 season at the Silesian Theatre Opava, where he made his debut as Cherubino in W. A. Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*. In this role, he successfully introduced himself to Prague audiences at the Estates Theatre as part of the Opera 2022 festival. Shortly afterwards he acted the title role of Emperor Nero in Monteverdi's *The Coronation of Poppea* at the Josef Kajetán Tyl Theatre in Pilsen. With this production he was invited to perform at the Margräfliches Opernhaus at the Musica Bayreuth Festival (2023).

He is also devoted to the interpretation of contemporary music, having played the role of Dafnis in the world premiere of the queer opera *Treasure of Arcadia* at the Opera Schratzenbach Festival in 2021. For his exceptional stage performance, he was selected by the Acting Association for a wider nomination for the 2022 Thalia award in the field of opera.

In the 2024/2025 season he sang the title role of Pinocchio in the world premiere of the opera *Pinocchio* at the South Bohemian Theatre in České Budějovice. Among his other interpretations of contemporary music, it is worth mentioning his collaboration with Michael Kocáb, whose works such as *Odysseus*, *Jan Hus* and others he performed with the Prague Symphony Orchestra. FOK at the Hybernia Theatre and at the Metronom Festival Prague 2024.

In the 2022/2023 season he took on several challenging singing roles and parts. These include the title role of Sextus in Mozart's opera *La clemenza di Tito*, in which he continues to perform at the Moravian Theatre in Olomouc and the lead role of Morasto in Vivaldi's opera *La fida ninfa*, in which he appeared at the Insbrucker Festwochen der Alten Musik.

In the 2023/2024 season he worked with the Czech ensemble Musica Florea, with whom he sang the roles of Jupiter and Tiempo in Sebastian Durón's Spanish

zarzuela, conducted by Marek Štrýncl, and with whom he performed in Poland, Prague and Český Krumlov. He also appears regularly with this ensemble in the soprano part of Pergolesi's *Stabat mater*. He has also sung this part with the State Chamber Orchestra of Žilina (SK).

For the 2024/2025 season, he is preparing the role of Alessandro Severo in Handel's opera of the same name, which he will perform with the Collegium Marianum, and the role of Prenesto in Bononcini's opera *Il trionfo di Camilla*, which he will sing again with Musica Florea.

He has also introduced his concert and opera repertoire to audiences abroad performing in China, Germany, Austria, Poland and Slovakia. He collaborates with the Guiyang Symphony Orchestra, the Pilsen Philharmonic Orchestra, Barocco sempre giovane, Musica Florea, Collegium Marianum, Ensemble Damian, the MDO Orchestra, the RUN OPERUN association, and the Viaggio musicale ensemble. He regularly gives solo recitals on the music of the Baroque, Classical and Early Romanticism, and performs at festivals such as Opera Schrattenbach, Monastery Music Festival, Theatrum Kuks, Musica Bayreuth, Innsbrucker Festwochen der Alten Musik and others.

He has also taken his concert and opera repertoire abroad, performing in China, Germany, Austria, Poland and Slovakia. He has collaborated with the Guiyang Symphony Orchestra, Pilsen Philharmonic Orchestra, Barocco sempre giovane, Musica Florea, Collegium Marianum, Ensemble Damian, MDO Orchestra, RUN OPERUN Association and Viaggio musicale Ensemble. He regularly gives solo recitals of Baroque, Classical and Early Romanticism music and appears at festivals such as Opera Schrattenbach, Klostermusikfest, Theatrum Kuks, Musica Bayreuth, Innsbrucker Festwochen der Alten Musik and others.

In 2019, in collaboration with the CPO label, the Ensemble 18+ and the Kurpfälzisches Kammerorchester Mannheim, he recorded a CD with selected arias from the operas of I. Holzbauer and J. A. Koželuh to the libretto of the same name by Alessandro nell'India. In 2023 he recorded the above-mentioned opera *La fida ninfa*, conducted by Chiara Cattani, in collaboration with the CPO Recold label, Barockorchester: Jung. And then with Ensemble Damian the opera *The Treasure of Arcadia*.