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Since being unanimously awarded First Prize at Plácido Domingo's Operalia competition in 2008, tenor Joel Prieto has established himself as one of the leading artists of his generation. Born in Spain and raised in Puerto Rico, he captivates audiences with the depth, dramatic intensity and passion of his performances, bringing vitality, elegance and beauty to his characters.

He has performed at many of the world's most prestigious opera houses and concert halls, including the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow; the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, and Wigmore Hall in London; Teatro Real in Madrid; Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona; Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía in Valencia; Ópera de Oviedo; Teatro de la Maestranza in Seville; Staatsoper Unter den Linden and Deutsche Oper Berlin; Semperoper Dresden; Bayerische Staatsoper in Munich; Washington National Opera; Houston Grand Opera; Los Angeles Opera; Opéra national de Paris and Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris; Théâtre du Capitole in Toulouse; Opéra de Monte-Carlo; La Monnaie in Brussels; Theater an der Wien and Wiener Konzerthaus in Vienna; Teatro dell'Opera di Roma; the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam; Teatr Wielki in Warsaw; the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing; NHK Hall in Tokyo; Ópera de Puerto Rico; Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires; and Teatro Municipal de Santiago in Chile.

He has also appeared at major international festivals, including the Salzburg Festival, Santa Fe Opera, Glyndebourne Festival, Edinburgh International Festival, Festival dei Due Mondi in Spoleto, Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, Casals Festival and the Mostly Mozart Festival at Lincoln Center in New York.

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Joel Prieto was born in Madrid to a Spanish father and a Puerto Rican mother. At the age of four, he moved to Puerto Rico, where he grew up. Raised in a deeply artistic environment, he began studying the violin at five and joined the San Juan Children's Choir at six. He studied at the University of Puerto Rico, the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music and the Manhattan School of Music in New York. He subsequently moved to Europe, joining the Atelier Lyrique at the Opéra national de Paris and later the Salzburg Festival's Young Singers Project. From 2006 to 2008, he was a member of the ensemble at Deutsche Oper Berlin.

Throughout his career, he has appeared in numerous productions recorded for DVD and broadcast internationally. He has worked with conductors including Zubin Mehta, Fabio Luisi, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Trevor Pinnock, Robin Ticciati, Daniele Gatti, Roberto Abbado, Ivor Bolton, Ottavio Dantone, Daniele Callegari, Bruno Campanella and Ádám Fischer, and with stage directors such as Sir David McVicar, Robert Carsen, Claus Guth, Christof Loy, Emilio Sagi, Barrie Kosky, Francisco Negrín, Stephen Lawless, Harry Kupfer, Frederic Wake-Walker and Hans Neuenfels.

Prieto began his career singing leading roles in the Mozart and bel canto repertoire and has gradually expanded into the full lyric tenor repertoire, taking on roles such as Edgardo, Don José, Pinkerton, Ruggero, Rodolfo, Werther, Gabriele and the Duke of Mantua. Recent seasons have marked a particularly significant stage in this development. He has enjoyed considerable success as Don José in *Carmen*, which is becoming one of his signature roles, with performances at ADDA in Alicante, with the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra at Stavanger Concert Hall, and at Opera Ballet Vlaanderen. He also earned considerable acclaim for creating the title role in the world premiere of *El caballero de Olmedo* at Teatro de la Zarzuela in Madrid. Other recent highlights include Nemorino in *L'elisir d'amore* at ABAO Bilbao Opera, Ferrando in *Così fan tutte* in Tokyo, Narraboth in *Salome* at Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, Alfredo in *La traviata* at Astana Opera, Cassio in Verdi's *Otello* at the Opéra national du Rhin in Strasbourg, and Camille de Rosillon in *The Merry Widow* at the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing.

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Highlights of the current season include his debut at the Opéra national de Lorraine in Nancy as Cassio in Verdi's *Otello*, his return to the Grand Théâtre de Luxembourg in the same role, and his debut at the Royal Swedish Opera in Verdi's *Messa da Requiem*.

Joel Prieto won several awards at the 2008 Operalia competition: First Prize, the Zarzuela Prize and the Culturarte Prize. In 2013, he also received the "Voces del Año" award for Best Male Voice from the Asociación de Cantantes Líricos de España.



A close-up portrait of a man with long, dark, wavy hair and a light beard. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. He is wearing a light blue button-down shirt under a dark jacket. The background is a dark, textured teal color.

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