



## WON CHO

Korean-Canadian Bass Won Cho is in demand in both concert and operatic repertoire worldwide thanks to his energetic voice and strong stage presence, appearing with many of the opera houses and orchestras of the U.S., Canada, Europe, Mid East, and his native Korea. Anchorage Daily News praised Won Cho's recent performance as "*steal(ing) the show as Don Basilio. (He) has a particularly dark, melodic yet rafter-ringing bass that is worth the price of admission all by itself.*"

His recent and upcoming engagements include his Carnegie Hall debut in The MidAmerica Production's Mozart *Requiem*, *Lord Nelson Mass & Bruckner's Te Deum* with Palm Beach Symphony, Basilio in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* with Helena Symphony, Basilio in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* with Anchorage Opera, Mercury Opera Rochester, and Lakeland Opera (FL), Brahms *Requiem* with Winter Park Bach Festival, Jesus in *St. John Passion* with The Bach Festival of Central Florida, Season opening concert singing Bach Cantata for The Florida Orchestra, and a recital at the Korean Cultural Service, NY sponsored by the Korea Music Foundation.

His 2007-2008 season included *Messiah* with The Florida Orchestra and Sarasota Chorale Society, Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, *Messiah*, Saint-Saëns' *Christmas Oratorio* in Tampa, Haydn's *The Creation* in Toronto, Commendatore in *Don Giovanni* and Colline in *La Bohème* with Mercury Opera of Rochester, NY, *The Creation* in Toronto, Beethoven's C Major Mass with Palm Beach Symphony, and *Missa Solemnis* and *Lord Nelson Mass* at The Classical Music Festival in Eisenstadt, Austria.

His engagements during 2006-2007 were Osmin in *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* with Mercury Opera of Rochester, Melchior in *Amahl & the Night Visitors* and Bach's *b minor Mass* with The Western New York Chamber Orchestra in Buffalo, Leporello in *Don Giovanni* at Southern Illinois Music Festival, his Mexico debut as Sprecher in *Die Zauberflöte* with the Xalapa Symphony Orchestra, *Messiah* in Toronto and Buffalo, *Lord Nelson Mass* in Toronto, Duruflé's *Requiem* at St. Paul's Cathedral in Buffalo, and Beethoven's *Choral Fantasie*, *Mass in C Major*, and the World Premiere of Randol Bass' "Passage Into Spirit" with Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus/Orchestra.

He was the 3rd prize winner of The 31st Vincenzo Bellini International Opera Competition in Italy where Dame. Joan Sutherland was the chair adjudicator, 1st prize winner of The Artist International Music Competition in Toronto, Canada, and a Regional Finalist at The Metropolitan Opera's National Council Audition. Additional honors and awards he has received include prizes from The Amici Vocal Competition, Operafest! of New Hampshire competition, and Hohenberg-Scheidt Opera Fellowship from The University of Memphis.

Won Cho studied at Manhattan School of Music, Boston University, and University of Memphis. He has served as a faculty at University of Northern Iowa (Voice), State University of New York in Fredonia (Voice / Opera), and currently serves at University of South Florida (Voice / Opera).