

## RICARDO LUGO

### BASS

Praised for his “resonant, full-voiced basso” by Opera News, Puerto Rican bass Ricardo Lugo is a versatile international artist in demand on the operatic and concert scene. Having made his Metropolitan Opera debut as Un Barnabotto in *La Gioconda*, Mr. Lugo has since been involved in multiple productions with the company including Shostakovich’s *The Nose*, *Pelléas et Mélisande*, *Otello*, *Tannhäuser*, *Tosca*, *Turandot*, *Manon Lescaut*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *Khovanshchina*, *Billy Budd*, *La fanciulla del West*, *Adriana Lecouvreur*, *Macbeth*, *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, *The Gambler*, *Die Zauberflöte* and *Salome*. In recent seasons, Mr. Lugo has joined Detroit Opera as the Commendatore in *Don Giovanni*, Timur in *Turandot*, Alfieri in Bolcom’s *A View from the Bridge*, Don Fernando in *Fidelio*, and the French General in *Silent Night*. Additionally, he has sung Dulcamara in *L’elisir d’amore* with Opera Memphis, Mr. Page in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* with Boston Midsummer Opera, the Sacristan in *Tosca* and Bartolo in *Le nozze di Figaro* with Sarasota Opera, Bartolo in *Le nozze di Figaro* with the Princeton Festival, Wachtmeister/Der Holsteiner in Richard Strauss’ *Friedenstag* with the America Symphony Orchestra, Timur in *Turandot* with Virginia Opera, Bartolo in *Le nozze di Figaro* with Vancouver Opera, and Sacristan in *Tosca* with Arizona Opera.



Mr. Lugo begins his 2022-2023 season in a return to Virginia Opera as Hunding in *Die Walküre*. He then brings his celebrated Bartolo in *Le nozze di Figaro* to Pittsburgh Opera and reprises his Simone in *Gianni Schicchi* at Hawaii Opera Theater. During the 2021-2022 season, Mr. Lugo joined Virginia Opera as Fafner in *Das Rheingold* and as Alcindoro in *La bohème*. He also bowed as Colline with Culturarte (Puerto Rico) and with Nashville Opera as Fasolt in *Das Rheingold*. The 2020-2021 season’s engagements included Oroveso in *Norma* with Musica Viva Hong Kong.

With the San Francisco Opera he has appeared as Reinmar von Zweter in *Tannhäuser*, the Second Priest in *Die Zauberflöte* as well as Sarastro in their adapted *Magic Flute* for families, and covered Banquo in *Macbeth*. He made his Washington National Opera debut singing Bonzo in *Madama Butterfly*, conducted by Maestro Plácido Domingo, and performed Annibale Pistacchio in Donizetti’s *Il Campanello di Notte* with Santa Fe Opera’s new One Hour Opera Performances. As an apprentice artist with The Santa Fe Opera, he was featured as the King in Massenet’s *Cendrillon* with Joyce DiDonato and Richard Stilwell, directed by Laurent Pelly and conducted by Kenneth Montgomery and as the First Soldier in Strauss’ *Salome*, conducted by John Fiore.

Mr. Lugo performs regularly with all the opera companies of his native Puerto Rico. With the Opera de Puerto Rico, he has performed Don Alfonso in *Così fan tutte*; Dr. Grenvil in *La traviata*; Colline in *La bohème*; Basilio in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*; and Angelotti in *Tosca*. For Teatro de la Opera, he added the roles of Pietro in *Simon Boccanegra*; Masetto in *Don Giovanni*; Tom in *Un ballo in maschera*; Crespel in *Les Contes d’Hoffman*; Frere Laurent in *Roméo et Juliette*; the Speaker in *Die Zauberflöte*; Ludovico in *Otello*; and Bartolo in *Le nozze di Figaro*. He has also taken part in CulturArte, where he performed the roles of Dr. Grenvil in *La traviata*, opposite Carol Vaness and Plácido Domingo; and Ludovico in *Otello* opposite June Anderson and Plácido Domingo, both conducted by Eugene Kohn.

On the concert platform Ricardo has sung Verdi’s *Requiem*, Beethoven’s *Missa Solemnis*, Mozart’s *Requiem*, *St. John Passion*, Mendelssohn’s *Magnificat*, Handel’s *Messiah*, Haydn’s *The Creation*, and Berlioz’ *Romeo et Juliette* with such orchestras as New Mexico Symphony, Puerto Rico Symphony and the Santa Fe Symphony. He has also appeared with the acclaimed Opera Orchestra of New York as Jacopo Loredano in *I due Foscari* conducted by Eve Queler. Lugo made his New York Recital Debut on February 2006 at the Liederkrantz Foundation. Additionally, he was featured as Jose Tripaldi in the acclaimed production of Osvaldo Golijov’s *Ainadamar*, directed by Peter Sellars, during Lincoln Center’s Festival entitled “The Passion of Osvaldo Golijov”.

## Ricardo Lugo

### Bass

#### Operatic Engagements

Dulcamara	<i>L'elisir d'amore</i>	Opera de Puerto Rico	2023
Simone	<i>Gianni Schicchi</i>	Hawaii Opera Theatre	2023
Bartolo	<i>Le nozze di Figaro</i>	Pittsburgh Opera	2022
Hunding	<i>Die Walküre</i>	Virginia Opera	2022
Fasolt	<i>Das Rheingold</i>	Nashville Opera	2022
Colline	<i>La bohème</i>	Opera de Puerto Rico & México	2022; '09; '05
Sacristan (cv.)	<i>Tosca</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2018-22
Alcindoro	<i>La bohème</i>	Virginia Opera	2022
Fafner	<i>Das Rheingold</i>	Virginia Opera	2021
Oroveso	<i>Norma</i>	Musica Viva Hong Kong	2021
Commendatore	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	Michigan Opera Theatre	2019
Shepherd (cv.)	<i>Pelléas et Mélisande</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2019
Bonze (cv.)	<i>Madama Butterfly</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2018
Sacristan	<i>Tosca</i>	Opera de Puerto Rico; Arizona Opera	2018; '17
2 <sup>nd</sup> Armored Man (cv.)	<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2017
Bartolo	<i>Le nozze di Figaro</i>	Vancouver Opera	2017
Timur	<i>Turandot</i>	Virginia Opera; Michigan Opera Theater	2017; '14
1 <sup>st</sup> Soldier (cv.)	<i>Salome</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2016
The French General	<i>Silent Night</i>	Michigan Opera Theatre	2016
Wachtmeister/Der Holsteiner	<i>Friedenstag</i>	American Symphony Orchestra	2016
Bonze	<i>Madama Butterfly</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2016
Reinmar von Zweter	<i>Tannhäuser</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2015
Angelotti (cv.)	<i>Tosca</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2015
Mandarin (cv.)	<i>Turandot</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2015
Bartolo	<i>Le nozze di Figaro</i>	Princeton Festival; Sarasota Opera	2015
Sacristan	<i>Tosca</i>	Sarasota Opera; Teatro de la Opera Puerto Rico	2015; '10
Hans Schwarz	<i>Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2014
Prison Guard	<i>Lady MacBeth of Mtsensk</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2014
Alfieri	<i>A View from the Bridge</i>	Michigan Opera Theatre	2014
Countess' Footman	<i>The Nose</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2013
Mr. Page	<i>Merry Wives of Windsor</i>	Boston Midsummer Opera	2013
Don Fernando	<i>Fidelio</i>	Michigan Opera Theatre	2013
Dulcamara	<i>L'elisir d'amore</i>	Opera Memphis; Festival Paiz, Guatemala	2013;'07
Don Pasquale	<i>Don Pasquale</i>	Boston Midsummer Opera	2012
1st mate (cv.)	<i>Billy Budd</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2012
Varsonovief (cv.)	<i>Khovanshichina</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2012
Leporello	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	Opera de Puerto Rico	2011
Jailer (cv.)	<i>Tosca</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2011
Bello (cv.)	<i>La fanciulla del West</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2010/11
Dr. Grenvile	<i>La traviata</i>	Opera de Puerto Rico	2010
Sarastro	<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>	CMPR Puerto Rico; San Francisco Opera	2010; '07
Sparafucile	<i>Rigoletto</i>	Dicapo Opera	2009
Un Barnabotto	<i>La Gioconda</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2008/06
Gambler Six	<i>The Gambler</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2008
Banco (cv.)	<i>Macbeth</i>	San Francisco Opera	2007
Reinmar von Zweter	<i>Tannhäuser</i>	San Francisco Opera	2007
Basilio	<i>Il barbiere di Siviglia</i>	Puerto Rico	2007
Annibale Pistacchio	<i>Il Campanello di Notte</i>	Santa Fe Opera	2007
Roucher, Dumas	<i>Andrea Chenier</i>	Cultuarte of Puerto Rico	2007
Bonze	<i>Madama Butterfly</i>	Washington National Opera	2006
Le Roi	<i>Cendrillon</i>	Santa Fe Opera	2006
Ramfis	<i>Aïda</i>	Opera de Puerto Rico	2006
Tripaldi	<i>Ainadamar</i>	Lincoln Center	2006

## Concert Appearances

Beethoven <i>Mass</i>	Phoenix Symphony	2019
Verdi <i>Requiem</i>	Puerto Rico Symphony; Bach Festival; Mexico State Symphony	2019; '11; 2008
Holiday Concert	Holland Symphony Orchestra (Michigan)	2017
<i>The Creation</i>	New Mexico Symphony; Puerto Rico Symphony	2011; 2009
<i>Missa Solemnis</i>	New Mexico Symphony	2009
<i>Messiah</i>	Santa Fe Symphony	2008
<i>Il due foscari</i> (Jacopo)	Opera Orchestra of NY	2007
<i>The Bells</i> (Rachmaninoff)	New Mexico Symphony	2007
<i>Romeo et Juliette</i> (Berlioz)	Puerto Rico Symphony	2003
Mozart, <i>Réquiem</i>	Puerto Rico Symphony	2002/04

## SELECT CRITICAL ACCLAIM

### **Roméo et Juliette – Sarasota Opera**

"Lugo used his full-voiced basso as a most sympathetic Frère Laurent who showed great care for the lovers."  
-Opera News

### **Don Giovanni – Michigan Opera Theatre**

"the production was brimming with excellent performances . . . Ricardo Lugo lent his huge, round bass sound to the ghostly Commendatore."  
-Opera News

### **Turandot – Virginia Opera**

"Ricardo Lugo's huge bass perfectly fits Timur, the blind, banished king of Tartary and Calaf's long-lost father."  
-The Virginian-Pilot

"Rounding out the quartet of principals, Ricardo Lugo was excellent in the small but important role of Timur, Calaf's blind and aging father, interpreting it with honor and dignity with his expressive bass virtually radiating age, sorrow and experience."  
-Communities Digital News

"Bass Ricardo Lugo (Timur) was vocally commanding and easily captured his every moment on stage."  
-The Virginia Gazette

### **Silent Night – Michigan Opera Theater**

"Lugo's unyielding bass gave the disapproving French general a granite edge."  
-Opera News

### **Friedenstag – American Symphony Orchestra**

"Bass Ricardo Lugo (above), as the opposing general, made a vibrant impression with his imposing voice and intrinsic sense of the drama. He was an excellent foil for Mr. Albert, and, between these two powerhouse voices, they kept our focus on the work keenly secured."  
-Oberon's Grove

"standouts in a strong cast included bass Ricardo Lugo doubling as a stoical Sergeant and the enemy Holsteiner commander in the final confrontation with the Commandant"  
-New York Classical Review

"Most of the other figures are under-characterized, though a few require major voices: the loyal Sergeant and the Holsteiner enemy commander (here doubled by imposing bass Ricardo Lugo, keenly inflecting words)"  
-ClassicalVoiceAmerica.org

"In the large cast of supporting roles, bass Ricardo Lugo and bass-baritone Carsten Wittmoser stood out for their mellifluous tone and elegant phrasing."  
-Opera News

### **Bartolo in Le nozze di Figaro – Princeton Festival**

"Ricardo Lugo was more put-upon than usual as Bartolo, using his low notes to assert his power"  
-Opera News

**Bonze in *Madama Butterfly* – Metropolitan Opera**

"The supporting characters were reasonably strong, with Tony Stevenson showing a firm tenor as Goro and Ricardo Lugo looming imperiously as the Bonze." -New York Classical Review

**Sacristan in *Tosca* – Sarasota Opera**

"Ricardo Lugo was an excellent and amusing Sacristan. . . ." -Sarasota Herald Tribune

**Timur in *Turandot* – Michigan Opera Theater**

Lugo's fluidity in the Italian language and the pleasurable resonance of his bass made one grateful for his presence." -Opera News

"Ricardo Lugo was excellent as Timur . . . ." - Detroit Free Press

"Bass Ricardo Lugo, who recently sang Alfieri in MOT's A View from the Bridge, performed Timur with affecting sympathy." - The Detroit News

**Alfieri in *A View from the Bridge* – Michigan Opera Theater**

"Returning to the company is bass Ricardo Lugo, whose lends the storyteller Alfieri both his resonant voice and commanding stage presence. When he describes Eddie's eyes as resembling two dark tunnels, the hairs on one's arms stand at attention." -The Examiner

". . . Ricardo Lugo displayed a sonorous bass as Alfieri." -Chicago Classical Review

"Also of note is basso Ricardo Lugo; part-time lawyer, part time narrator, "Alfieri" not only provides segues between scenes, he brings a welcome hint of humor in the face of tragedy." - Encore Michigan

"Ricardo Lugo as the lawyer-cum-narrator Alfieri sounded strong." - Detroit Free Press

**Dulcamara in *L'elisir d'amore* – Opera Memphis**

"Ricardo Lugo's Dr. Dulcamara offers him an elixir guaranteed to make women fall in love with him. Lugo hilariously plays the shady charlatan ever poised to "get out of Dodge." -The Commercial Appeal

**Don Fernando in *Fidelio* – Michigan Opera Theater**

"As the deus ex machina, young Ricardo Lugo sang gravely as Don Fernando, whose arrival to review the prison finalizes Florestan's freedom." -Between The Lines News

**Bonze in *Madama Butterfly* – Washington National Opera**

"Bass Ricardo Lugo was appropriately ominous in his brief, highly theatrical turn as the Bonze." -The Washington Times

**Sparafucile in *Rigoletto***

"...the small roles were splendidly cast. Sparafucile, the Burgundian hit man, was sung by Ricardo Lugo's resonant bass of which one hopes to hear much more." -Albuquerque Journal

**Geronte in *Manon Lescaut***

"Puerto Rican bass-baritone Ricardo Lugo gave a bigger-than-life, rich-voiced portrayal of the proud, unscrupulous Geronte de Revoir, Manon's wealthy but aging "protector" who has her arrested as a prostitute and thief when she attempts to gather up her jewels and flee with Des Grieux... His is a career to watch."-On Stage

**Soloist in *The Bells***

"Finally as the funeral bells sounded lugubriously, bass Ricardo Lugo's demonstrative pronouncements were quite chilling. The work ended movingly, with a near-Wagnerian apotheosis." -Albuquerque Journal