



STRATAGEM
ARTISTS

ARTIST DRIVEN COLLABORATION

Matthew Pearce

Tenor

Hailing from Lexington, KY, tenor Matthew Pearce is praised for his “confidence, brightness and high level of control” (Operawire). In the 2024-2025 season, he makes company debuts as Don Pizarro in the North American premiere of Ferdinando Paer’s *Leonora* with Chicago Opera Theatre and the Duke of Mantua in *Rigoletto* with Pacific Opera Victoria.

Last season, Mr. Pearce made a debut as Lennie Small in *Of Mice and Men* with Livermore Valley Opera and Simon Tam in *Slanted: An American Rock Opera* with Opera Theatre St. Louis. He sang the role of the Ground Controller in the Metropolitan Opera’s workshop of *Grounded*, and performed as a soloist in *Das Buch mit Sieben Siegeln* with Dallas Symphony and in Beethoven’s *Symphony No. 9* with the Chattanooga Symphony. He has performed the role of Don José in *Carmen* at The Glimmerglass Festival, Portland Opera, Washington National Opera and the Chautauqua Institution.

During his tenure as a Cafritz Young Artist with Washington National Opera, he participated in the Kennedy Center Honors in a tribute for Justino Díaz, and sang Monostatos in *Die Zauberflöte*, First Philistine in *Samson et Dalila*, Rodolfo in *La bohème*, Boyar in *Boris Godunov*, and First Prisoner in *Fidelio*. Mr. Pearce also had the honor of performing The Magician in a reduced version of *The Consul* at the U.S. Supreme Court for the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Other highlights include the Guard in the world premiere of David Lang’s *prisoner of the state* with the New York Philharmonic, performances of John Corigliano’s *Poem in October* with the Juilliard Orchestra and Juilliard’s AXIOM ensemble, his David Geffen Hall debut in the New York premiere of Angela Rice’s *Easter Oratorio Thy Will be Done* with the National Chorale, and Tebaldo in *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* with the Chautauqua Institution.

Mr. Pearce has received training from institutions including the Washington National Opera, The Glimmerglass Festival, Chautauqua Voice Program, and the Aspen Music Festival, and holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Kentucky and a Master of Music in Voice from the Juilliard School.

Outside of performing, Mr. Pearce is an accomplished teacher, teaching masterclasses and seminars at universities across the country and serves on the board of OperaLex, an organization dedicated to supporting students of opera at the University of Kentucky.

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Opera/Musical

Duke of Mantua*	<i>Rigoletto</i>	Pacific Opera Victoria	2024
Don Pizarro	<i>Leonora</i>	Chicago Opera Theatre	2024
Ground Controller (workshop)	<i>Grounded</i>	Metropolitan Opera	2024
Lennie Small	<i>Of Mice and Men</i>	Livermore Valley Opera	2023
Simon Tam	<i>Slanted: An American Rock Opera</i>	Opera Theatre St. Louis	2023
Don José	<i>Carmen</i>	Portland Opera	2022
Don José	<i>Carmen</i>	The Glimmerglass Festival	2022
Don José	<i>Carmen</i>	Washington National Opera	2022
Rodolfo (cancelled due to COVID)	<i>La Bohème</i>	Washington National Opera	2021
Boyar (cancelled due to COVID)	<i>Boris Godunov</i>	Washington National Opera	2021
First Prisoner (cancelled due to COVID)	<i>Fidelio</i>	Washington National Opera	2020
Magician	<i>The Consul</i>	Washington National Opera	2020
First Philistine	<i>Samson et Dalila</i>	Washington National Opera	2020
Monastatos	<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>	Washington National Opera	2019
Tebaldo	<i>I Capuleti e I Montecchi</i>	Chautauqua Institution	2019
Prison Guard	<i>The Prisoner of the State</i>	New York Philharmonic	2019
Don José	<i>La Tragédie de Carmen</i>	City Lyric Opera	2019
Don José	<i>Carmen</i>	Chautauqua Institution	2018
Spärlich	<i>Die lustigen Weiber von Windsor</i>	The Juilliard School	2018
Rodolfo^	<i>La Bohème</i>	The Juilliard School	2018
Albert^	<i>Albert Herring</i>	Aspen Opera Center	2017
Howard B. ^	<i>Dead Man Walking</i>	Aspen Opera Center	2016
Lechmere^	<i>Owen Wingrave</i>	Aspen Opera Center	2016

Oratorio/Concert

<i>9th symphony</i> (Beethoven)	Chattanooga Symphony Orchestra	Memorial Auditorium	2024
<i>Das Buch mit sieben Siegeln</i>	Dallas Symphony Orchestra	Meyerson Symphony Center	2024
<i>Laut verkünde unsre Freude</i>	National Symphony Orchestra	Kennedy Center Concert Hall	2021
Kennedy Center Honors	The Kennedy Center	The Kennedy Center	2021
Poem in October	Juilliard's AXIOM Orchestra	Alice Tully Hall	2018
<i>Toys in a Field</i> (world premiere)	Juilliard Orchestra	Alice Tully Hall	2018
Thy Will Be Done	The National Chorale	David Geffen Hall	2018
Schwab Vocal Rising Stars	NYFOS	Caramoor	2018
NYFOS @ Juilliard	NYFOS	Peter Jay Sharp Opera Theater	2018
<i>Requiem</i> (Mozart)	Univ. of Kentucky Orchestra	Singletary Center	2016

Training

Cafritz Young Artist		Washington National Opera	2019-2022
Young Artist		The Glimmerglass Festival	2022
Apprentice Singer (cancelled due to COVID)		Santa Fe Opera	2020
Young Artist		Chautauqua Voice Program	2018
Studio Artist		Aspen Music Festival and School	2016

Education

M.M. Vocal Performance		The Juilliard School	2019
B.M. Vocal Performance		University of Kentucky	2017

* Upcoming Performance + Cover Role ^ Partial Role

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Of Mice and Men, Livermore Valley Opera

“Matthew Pearce was no less formidable as the hulking, heedless Lennie, his powerful tenor cresting in moments of jubilation, then turning in on itself in a panic when the character’s brute instincts land him in trouble.”

Joshua Kosman, *San Francisco Chronicle* 2023

“To begin my multi-course menu of praise, try the superlative performance of tenor Matthew Pearce as the mentally challenged Lennie. He has mastered the character’s physical behaviors and childlike mental condition, but best of all, unlike some of the others who have faced the part’s musical difficulties, he hits his several high notes like hot butter melting into the toast of Floyd’s phrases.”

Jeff Dunn, *Aisle Seat Review* 10/10/2023

“Matthew Pearce very much looks the part as the downtrodden but impish Lennie. The pleasant anomaly comes when he sings with commanding dynamics that wouldn’t be expected of the character. His powerful upper register along with lyric sonority are exquisite and foretell a big future for this young tenor.”

Victor Cordell, *Berkshire Fine Arts* 10/09/2023

Slanted: An American Rock Opera, Opera Theatre St. Louis

“Matthew Pearce’s exquisite voice served the compelling story especially well. Instead of the typical booming vibrato tenor, Pearce opted for a tender, angelic delivery that had the capacity to pierce a heart of stone.”

St. Louis American 03/23/2023

Carmen, Washington National Opera

“Matthew Pearce, blends strength with sensitivity... and the ease with which he colored his singing, including some beautiful *voix mixte*, gave his brusque Don José a believable air of desperation.”

Harry Rose, *Parterre Box* 05/18/2022

La Tragedie de Carmen, City Lyric Opera

“Matthew Pearce, as Don José, overcomes all this adversity and manages to give a standout vocal performance...”

Loren Lester, *Schmopera* 05/13/2019

"Tenor Matthew Pearce demonstrated that he could take on powerful roles such as Don José even early on in his career" ... "Pearce hit dramatic high notes with confidence, brightness, and seemingly with ease, demonstrating a high level of control."

Chris Ruel, *Operawire* 05/10/2019