

ASITHA TENNEKOON

TENOR



2017 DORA AWARD – OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE, MALE, OPERA DIVISION –
ROCKING HORSE WINNER (TAPESTRY/SCOTTISH OPERA)

As Peter Quint in *Turn of the Screw* with Opera 5 –

“In Asitha Tennekoon we have the ideal Canadian successor to interpret the Britten 'Pears' roles.”
Gianmarco Segato, *La Scena Musicale*

As Tamino in *The Magic Flute* with The Little Opera Company –

“Asitha Tennekoon infused his role with requisite nobility, with his tenor voice as silky smooth as his princely attire.”

Holly Harris, *Opera Canada*

BIOGRAPHY

Praised by The Globe and Mail for “...his silky, emotional presence on stage – both vocally and dramatically...”, Sri Lankan tenor Asitha Tennekoon has established himself as one of Canada’s most versatile singing artists. In 2017 he drew critical acclaim and received a Dora Award for his portrayal of **Paul** in Tapestry Opera/Scottish Opera’s *Rocking Horse Winner*. Asitha is sought after for performances spanning from Baroque to experimental repertoire.

This season, Asitha looks forward to his debut with Symphony Nova Scotia (Handel’s *Messiah*), and to Britten’s *War Requiem* with Vancouver Bach Choir. Asitha continues to expand his reputation as an impressive interpreter of J.S.Bach’s **Evangelist**, and will be featured this season with the Grand Philharmonic Choir in *St. Matthew’s Passion*. Asitha will perform with pianist Steven Philcox in “*Belonging*”, a solo recital for Women’s Musical Club of Toronto, featuring works by Cusson, Vaughan Williams, Loren, and Muhly.

On the operatic stage, Asitha will be featured in re:Naissance Opera’s world premiere of *Eurydice Fragments* (Kasahara/Hathaway), an immersive re-imagining of the Orphean myth, and sings the role of **Bill** in Vancouver Opera’s production of Jonathon Dove’s *Flight*.

Recent roles for Asitha include **Peter Quint** in *Turn of the Screw* (Opera 5), **Tamino** in *The Magic Flute* (The Little Opera Company), **Ferrando** in *Così fan tutte* with Edmonton Opera, and **Flute** in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* with Vancouver Opera. Asitha has performed principal roles with Pacific Opera Victoria, Canadian Opera Company, Opera Kelowna, Opera de Montréal, and Opera Lafayette.

Asitha is a Co-Founder of Amplified Opera, a Toronto based indie Opera company committed to placing artists at the centre of public discourse. He makes his home in the unceded traditional territories of the xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətaɬ (TsleilWaututh) Nations (Vancouver, BC).

SELECTED RESUME

OPERA

Bill Flight | Vancouver Opera*

Peter Quint/Prologue *The Turn of the Screw* | Opera 5

Tamino *Magic Flute* | The Little Opera Company

Ferrando *Così fan tutte* | Edmonton Opera/Opera Kelowna

Remendado *Carmen* | Pacific Opera Victoria

*upcoming

CONCERT

Messiah Handel | Vancouver Bach Choir, Chorus Niagara

St. John Passion (Evangelist & Arias) Bach | Vancouver

Bach Choir, Ottawa Choral Society

Christmas Oratorio (Evangelist & Arias) Bach |

Grand Philharmonic, Ottawa Choral Society

St. Nicolas Britten | Vancouver Bach Choir



As **Peter Quint** in *Turn of the Screw* with Opera 5 (above) and as **Tamino** in *Magic Flute* with Little Opera Company, Winnipeg (right)



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