

GILES TOMKINS BASS-BARITONE

BIOGRAPHY

As Badger and Priest in The Cunning Little Vixen with Canadian Opera Company -

"Bass-baritone Giles Tomkins sank his teeth firmly into The Badger as well as the Priest. As always, his singing was top-notch and really seemed to be having fun with the role."

Greg Finney, Schmopera

As Colline in La bohème with Against the Grain Theatre -

"His unforgettable and poignant farewell to his overcoat in Act IV will go down as one of the best I have heard live or on recording in decades. Sincere, irreverent, consummately musical at every step, he was the role, wearing his status on his sleeve for us all to see. It was ironic that so much could be said about a life without a regular meal through brazen and well-acted comedy."

Stephan Bonfield, Ludwig van Toronto

Canadian/British bass-baritone Giles Tomkins is widely praised for his vocal virtuosity and lyricism in an impressive range of repertoire. His rich, resonant voice brings "authority and power" to the concert and operatic stage.

Acclaimed operatic roles for Giles include **Fafner** (*Das Rheingold*) with Edmonton Opera, **Raimondo** (*Lucia di Lammermoor*), **Pistola** (*Falstaff*), **Superintendent Budd** (*Albert Herring*), **Colline** (*La bohème*) and **Don Basilio** (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*). A frequent performer with Canadian Opera Company, in 2024 Giles sang the roles of **Parson & Badger** in their production of *The Cunning Little Vixen* (Janáček) and sang the role of **Zuniga** in *Carmen* with Manitoba Opera.

Giles begins the 2024/25 season as **Frank** in Die Fledermaus with Vancouver Opera, is the **King** in Pacific Opera Victoria's The Little Prince and **Hunding** in Die Walküre with Edmonton Opera.

Giles has appeared as a guest soloist in *Messiah* with many of Canada's finest choirs and ensembles, including the Elmer Iseler Singers, Hamilton Philharmonic and Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra. His extensive concert repertoire includes Dvorak's *Stabat Mater*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, (both with Vancouver Symphony Orchestra) and Mozart's *Requiem* with Regina Symphony Orchestra. Giles joined Chorus Niagara for Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* and returns in 2025 for Bach's *B Minor Mass*.