



## PAUL-ANTOINE BÉNOS-DJIAN *counter-tenor*



Paul-Antoine Bénos-Djian started singing at the age of 10 with Opéra Junior in Montpellier. After studying percussion and obtaining a degree in Public Law, he studied at the Centre de Musique Baroque de Versailles before entering the Paris Conservatoire, where he studied with Yves Sotin. Whilst still a student, he was chosen to sing with conductors Christophe Rousset, Hervé Niquet and Florence Malgoire in major venues: the Theater an der Wien, the Opéra Royal and Chapelle Royale in Versailles, the Arsenal in Metz, Opéra d'Avignon, Opéra de Montpellier, Opéra de Massy, the Fondation Louis Vuitton and the Universities of Lafayette and Baton Rouge in the United States.

He has also sung as a soloist with Raphaël Pichon, Emmanuelle Haïm, Benoit Haller, Christophe Coin and Philippe Pierlot. Early career highlights included his operatic debut as **Athamas** in *Semele*, performances of Charpentier's *Le Malade Imaginaire* and working alongside the ballerina Ana Yepes in the Festival d'Automne at the Centre National de la Danse. He has also worked with well-known ensembles Les Cris de Paris, Les Lunaisiens, Les Musiciens du Paradis, La Tempesta, and Les Cyclopes.

In 2017, he was named among the 2017 *HSBC Révélation* award-winners at the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, and Paul Antoine has also received an award from the Fondation Meyer and won the Prix Grand-Avignon at the first running of the *Concours Jeunes Espoirs* at the Opéra d'Avignon.

More recently, he has sung **Unulfo** *Rodelinda* at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées with Le Concert d'Astrée/Emmanuelle Haïm, the **title role** in Stradella's *San Giovanni Battista* (recorded for release shortly) with Le Banquet Céleste, **Ottone** *Agrippina* and **Marte** *La Divisione del mondo* with Les Talens Lyriques/Christophe Rousset, **Tolomeo** *Giulio Cesare* with English Touring Opera and the **title role** in a major touring production of *Rinaldo* with La Co[opéra]tive, as well as making his UK debut with Opera North as **Nireno** *Giulio Cesare*.

He has also performed in concert with, amongst others, Le Poème Harmonique, Café Zimmerman and La Chapelle Rhénane. In theatre, 2018/19 saw his debut at La Comédie Française in Paris, singing in performances of *La Nuit des rois* (Twelfth Night), also to be released on film (and revived on stage in 2020).

Future plans include **Ottone** *L'incoronazione di Poppea* for the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, **Nireno** *Giulio Cesare* at the Théâtre des Champs Élysées, **La Voce di Dio** in Scarlatti's *Il Primo Omicidio* with Philippe Jaroussky, concert performances of *Caligula* with Le Poème Harmonique and a reprise of *San Giovanni Battista* with Le Banquet Céleste and Damien Guillon (recently recorded and released to great critical acclaim).