

ANDREW DROST

Founder of The Institute for American Musical Theatre

PERFORMANCE BIO:

Born in Detroit, MI he began his artistic career as a professional ballet dancer working with many of the top ballet companies in the United States such as the Boston Ballet, Miami City Ballet, Chautauqua Ballet, Los Angeles Ballet and the Metropolitan Opera Ballet. Working with choreographers such as Twyla Tharp, Paul Taylor, David Parsons, Jimmy Gamonet de los Heros, John Clifford, Fernando Bujones and Bill T. Jones to name a few. Performing many full length ballets such as Swan Lake, Giselle, Romeo and Juliet, The Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella and his fair share of The Nutcracker which he danced over 500 performances of during his career.

As an International operatic tenor, Mr. Drost has performed in more than 30 productions world wide. He made his operatic debut with the Sarasota Opera in the role of "Flaminio" in *L'amore di Tre Re* (Montimezzi) and "Macduff" in *Macbeth* (Verdi) followed by his debut with the New York City Opera in the role of "Signor Pirelli" in *Sweeney Todd* (Sondheim). After his successful debut with the NYCO he was invited to sing the role of "Belfiore" in *Il Viaggio a Reims* (Rossini), "Rodrigo" in *La Donna del Lago* (Rossini), "Victorin" in *Die Tote Stadt* (Korngold), "Acis" in *Acis & Galatea* (Handel), "Bagha" in the World Premiere of *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*, "The Lamplighter/Drunkard" in the NYC Premiere of *The Little Prince*, "Ciccio" in *The Most Happy Fella* and many more; as well as many concert and gala appearances including "City Opera at the Pier" at the South Street Seaport in NYC, "Stars of The New York City Opera" at the West Hampton Performing Arts Center, "French Fete" opening night gala and VOX, a special program dedicated to showcasing modern operas.

He made his European debut at the Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro, Italy singing “Belfiore” and “Liebenskof” in *Il Viaggio a Reims*. With the Sarasota Opera he has also performed “Prunier” in *La Rondine* (Puccini). He was invited by the Caramoor International Music Festival to participate in the “*Bernstein on Broadway*” celebration concert with the Orchestra of St. Lukes and Broadway leading ladies Judy Kaye and Lisa Vroman with Michael Barrett conducting. With the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, he performed in the World Premiere of “*The Golden Ticket*” (Ash) where he sang the role of “Augustus Gloop” to great critical acclaim. About Mr. Drost’s performance OperaNews Magazine said “...Augustus Gloop mimics a Wagnerian Tenor and Andrew Drost’s firm, bright top was thrilling!”. The beginning of 2011 he sang the role of SYME in “*1984*” (Maazel) at the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia under the baton of Maestro Lorin Maazel to critical acclaim and the title role in Mozart’s “*Mitridate*” in New York City. Spring 2012 brought Andrew to the Atlanta Opera to reprise his role of "Augustus Gloop" in *The Golden Ticket!* Mr. Drost is currently in Broadway Cast of *The Phantom of the Opera* where he has done more than 2,200 performances.

Mr. Drost’s brainchild, and teaching methodology called VoiceBarre®, has been called "genius" and "life changing" by his students and peers. In the Broadway community, Mr. Drost is known as "The Voice Mechanic®" for his outstanding technical and voice rehabilitation work with his professional Broadway clientele. An in-demand teacher, Mr. Drost has taught vocal masterclasses nation wide and internationally with requests that go into 2022.

After 29 years of stage experience as a singer, dancer and actor and his work with Alexander technique, Feldenkrais work, as well as working with some of the best voice teachers, coaches, breathing specialists and otolaryngologists from around the World, Mr. Drost cultivated and created VoiceBarre®, a systematic approach to vocal technique.

With close to 40 students in Broadway shows and Tours including: Music Man Broadway revival 2020, Moulin Rouge, RENT National

Tour, Escape to Margaritaville National Tour, Aladdin National Tour, Kinky Boots National Tour, WICKED, Sound of Music National Tour, Jersey Boys, The Phantom of the Opera, The Phantom of the Opera National Tour, An American in Paris (Broadway & National Tour), Tuck Everlasting, Newsies National Tour, Charlie and The Chocolate Factory, Come From Away, The Lion King, Hello Dolly, Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812, Shuffle Along, On The Town, After Midnight, Nice Work If You Can Get It, Chicago, Mary Poppins, Guys & Dolls, West Side Story Movie and Rock of Ages.