KANTTILA MANAGEMENT



ARTIST
DOSSIER

BIOGRAPHY · CV

Martin-Jan Nijhof

Bass / Bass-Baritone

Biography

Martin-Jan Nijhof



Since 2016, Dutch bass-baritone Martin-Jan Nijhof has been a permanent member of the Semperoper Dresden ensemble. Alongside his work in Dresden, he appeared as Wotan in *Das Rheingold* at Stadttheater Klagenfurt and in the title role of *Der fliegende Holländer* at Theater Osnabrück in 2025.

His Semperoper repertoire includes Figaro and Bartolo in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Escamillo in *Carmen*, Colline in *La bohème*, Don Alfonso in *Così fan tutte*, Angelotti in *Tosca*, Truffaldin in *Ariadne auf Naxos* and the Speaker in *Die Zauberflöte*. He has also sung Surin in *The Queen of Spades*, Hans Folz in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, the Judicial Counsellor in *Intermezzo* and the Doctor in Shostakovich's *The Nose*. His collaborators include conductors Christian Thielemann, Omer Meir Wellber, Christoph Gedschold, Mikhail Tatarnikov, Evelino Pidò, Leonardo Sini, Giedrė Šlekytė, Evan Rogister, Gaetano d'Espinosa, John Fiore, Petr Popelka and Giampaolo Bisanti.

Mr. Nijhof has appeared in numerous audio and video recordings, including *Il tabarro* with the Dresden Philharmonic under Marek Janowski; *La bohème*, *Rigoletto*, *La traviata* and *Tosca* with the NDR Radiophilharmonie under Keri-Lynn Wilson; *La fanciulla del West* with the Transylvania State Philharmonic under Lawrence Foster; and *Don Giovanni* with the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra under David Stern.

In concert, he sings the bass solos in Bach's *St Matthew Passion*, *St John Passion* and *Christmas Oratorio*; Rossini's and Dvořák's *Stabat Mater*; Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*; Brahms's *Ein deutsches Requiem* and *Vier ernste Gesänge*; Mendelssohn's *Elijah*; and Mahler's *Kindertotenlieder*.

Before Dresden, Mr. Nijhof held ensemble positions at Landestheater Niederbayern in Passau, Theater Regensburg and Theater Magdeburg. During this period, he sang Kaspar in *Der Freischütz*, Wozzeck, Don Giovanni and Leporello, Daland in *Der fliegende Holländer*, Sarastro, Raimondo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Orest in *Elektra*, the Bonze in *Madama Butterfly*, Timur in *Turandot* and Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Born in Ravenstein in the Netherlands, he studied with Barbara Schlick at Maastricht Conservatory and completed postgraduate studies with Reginaldo Pinheiro at the Hochschule für Musik Freiburg. He continues to work closely with bass Jaakko Ryhänen.

Curriculum vitae

Martin-Jan Nijhof

BASS / BASS-BARITONE



NATIONALITY Netherlands

LANGUAGES Dutch · German · English

BASED IN Dresden, Germany

CURRENT ENSEMBLE

2016– Semperoper Dresden (current)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2009–2016 Theater Magdeburg (former)

2004–2009 Theater Regensburg (former)

2003–2004 Theater Passau (former)

SELECTED HOUSES AND FESTIVALS

Theater Osnabrück · Theater Klagenfurt · Concertgebouw Amsterdam · Kulturpalast Dresden · Frauenkirche Dresden

Performed on Stage

Selected

ROLE	WORK / COMPOSER	THEATRE / FESTIVAL	YEAR
Sprecher	Die Zauberflöte *Mozart*	Semperoper Dresden	2026
Holländer	Der fliegende Holländer *Wagner*	Osnabrück	2025
Wotan	Das Rheingold *Wagner*	Klagenfurt	2025
Le Geôlier	Dialogues des Carmélites *Poulenc*	Semperoper Dresden	2025
Justizrat	Intermezzo *Strauss*	Semperoper Dresden	2025
Hans Folz	Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg *Wagner*	Semperoper Dresden	2023
Surin	The Queen of Spades *Tchaikovsky*	Semperoper Dresden	2023

Performed on Stage

Selected

ROLE	WORK / COMPOSER	THEATRE / FESTIVAL	YEAR
Colline	La bohème *Puccini*	Semperoper Dresden	2023
Truffaldin	Ariadne auf Naxos *Strauss*	Semperoper Dresden	2023
Don Giovanni	Don Giovanni *Mozart*	Theater Magdeburg	2022
Figaro	Le nozze di Figaro *Mozart*	Semperoper Dresden	2021
Don Alfonso	Così fan tutte *Mozart*	Semperoper Dresden	2020
Angelotti	Tosca *Puccini*	Semperoper Dresden	2020
Escamillo	Carmen *Bizet*	Semperoper Dresden	2018
Monterone	Rigoletto *Verdi*	NDR Hannover Open Air	2016
Four villains (German)	Hoffmanns Erzählungen *Offenbach*	Theater Magdeburg	2015
Kaspar	Der Freischütz *C. M. von Weber*	Theater Magdeburg	2015

Performed on Stage

Selected

ROLE	WORK / COMPOSER	THEATRE / FESTIVAL	YEAR
Bottom	A Midsummer Night's Dream *Britten*	Theater Magdeburg	2014
Orest	Elektra *Strauss*	Theater Magdeburg	2014
Timur	Turandot *Puccini*	Theater Magdeburg	2011
Sarastro	Die Zauberflöte *Mozart*	Theater Magdeburg	2011
Bonze	Madama Butterfly *Puccini*	Theater Magdeburg	2010

CURRICULUM VITAE

Education & distinctions

2003	Postgraduate studies Hochschule für Musik Freiburg · Reginaldo Pinheiro
2001	Higher education diploma Conservatorium Maastricht · Barbara Schlick