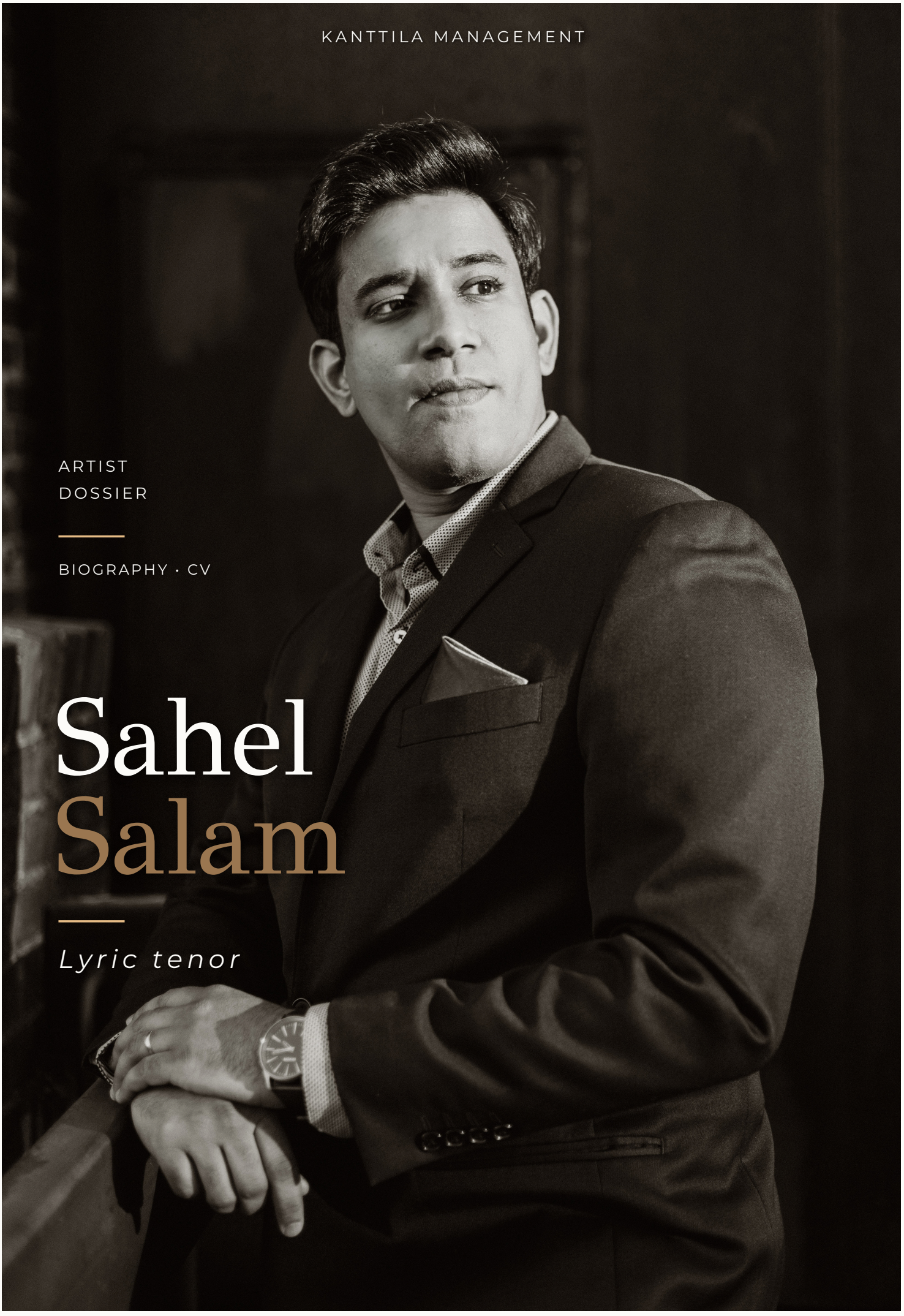
KANTTILA MANAGEMENT



ARTIST
DOSSIER

BIOGRAPHY · CV

Sahel Salam

Lyric tenor

Biography

Sahel Salam



American-British lyric tenor Sahel Salam joined the Theater Freiburg ensemble in the 2025/26 season. His first season brought roles in Handel, Verdi, Gluck and Massenet, beginning with his company debut as Oronte in *Alcina*. He subsequently sang the Duke of Mantua in *Rigoletto*, Pylade in *Iphigénie en Tauride* and the title role in *Werther*. His 2026/27 schedule includes a return as Werther, Alfredo Germont in *La traviata* and Cinderella's Prince in *Into the Woods*, alongside appearances in Oliver Leith's *Last Days* and Ellen Reid's *The Shell Trial*.

Before moving to Freiburg, Mr. Salam was a member of Washington National Opera's Cafritz Young Artist Studio from 2023 to 2025. He appeared with the company as Jaquino in *Fidelio*, Pang in *Turandot* and Tybalt in *Roméo et Juliette*, and covered Roméo. During this period, he also undertook cover assignments for Tom Rakewell in Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress* at the Glimmerglass Festival in 2025, and for Alfredo Germont and the Italian Singer in *Der Rosenkavalier* at The Santa Fe Opera in 2024.

Mr. Salam made his Cincinnati Opera debut as Lord Arturo Bucklaw in *Lucia di Lammermoor* in 2023. Earlier stage work at the Academy of Vocal Arts included Ernesto in *Don Pasquale*, Rodolfo in *La bohème* and Fernand in the French version of *La favorite*. With the Merola Opera Program, he sang Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte*.

Mr. Salam was a National Grand Finalist in the Metropolitan Opera Eric and Dominique Laffont Competition in 2023. He won first prize at the Mario Lanza Competition in 2022 and the Audience Prize at the Giargiari Bel Canto Competition in 2021.

Mr. Salam holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Texas at Austin and a Master of Performance in Opera Studies from the Royal College of Music in London. From 2019 to 2023, he was a Resident Artist at the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia, completing an Artist Diploma. His training also includes programmes at Glimmerglass, Santa Fe and Merola, the Music Academy of the West and Glyndebourne's Jerwood Young Artist Programme. He continues his vocal studies with Bill Schuman.

Curriculum vitae

Sahel Salam

LYRIC TENOR



NATIONALITY United States · United Kingdom

LANGUAGES German · English

BASED IN Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany

CURRENT ENSEMBLE

2025– present Theater Freiburg (current)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023–2025 Washington National Opera (former)

SELECTED HOUSES AND FESTIVALS

Glimmerglass Festival Opera · The Santa Fe Opera · Cincinnati Opera · Merola Opera Program · Glyndebourne Festival Opera

Performed on Stage

Selected

ROLE	WORK / COMPOSER	THEATRE / FESTIVAL	YEAR
Alfredo	La traviata *Verdi*	Theater Freiburg	2026
Werther	Werther *Massenet*	Theater Freiburg	2026
Duca di Mantova	Rigoletto *Verdi*	Theater Freiburg	2025
Pylade	Iphigénie en Tauride *Gluck*	Theater Freiburg	2025
Pang	Turandot *Puccini*	Washington National Opera	2024
Tybalt	Roméo et Juliette *Gounod*	Washington National Opera	2023
Arturo Bucklaw	Lucia di Lammermoor *Donizetti*	Cincinnati Opera	2023
Ernesto	Don Pasquale *Donizetti*	Academy of Vocal Arts	2023

Performed on Stage

Selected

ROLE	WORK / COMPOSER	THEATRE / FESTIVAL	YEAR
Tamino	Die Zauberflöte *Mozart*	Merola Opera Program	2022
Rodolfo	La bohème *Puccini*	Academy of Vocal Arts	2022
Fernand	La favorite (French version) *Donizetti*	Academy of Vocal Arts	2020
Italian Singer	Der Rosenkavalier *R. Strauss*	The University of Texas at Austin	2016
Vincent	Mireille *Gounod*	Franco-American Vocal Academy	2015

CURRICULUM VITAE

Education & distinctions

2023	Artist Diploma Academy of Vocal Arts · Bill Schuman
2019	Master of Performance · Opera Studies Royal College of Music in London · David Rendall
2017	Bachelor of Music · Vocal Performance The University of Texas at Austin · William Lewis

Masterclasses

2024, 2025	Pierre Vallet Washington National Opera
2019, 2023, 2024, 2025	Neil Shicoff Washington National Opera and Glyndebourne Festival Opera
2023	Rolando Villazón Merola Opera Program
2018	Marilyn Horne Music Academy of the West
2018	Brindley Sherratt Royal College of Music in London

Awards & competitions

2023	National Grand Finalist Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition Metropolitan Opera, New York City, USA

CURRICULUM VITAE

Education & distinctions

Awards & competitions

2022	1st Place Mario Lanza Competition Mario Lanza Institute, Philadelphia, USA
2021	Finalist Vincerò International Competition Vincerò International, Naples, Italy
2021	Audience Award Giargiari Bel Canto Competition Academy of Vocal Arts, Philadelphia, USA