

# Brett Sprague

TENOR

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## BIOGRAPHY

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American tenor Brett Sprague has established himself as a compelling and distinctive presence on the international stage, an artist whose work sits at the intersection of lyrical refinement and dramatic power. Praised for his fearless dramatic instinct, psychological depth, and extraordinary stamina, he shapes characters from the inside out with a rigorous textual intelligence that matches his vocal command.

The 2027 season marks a watershed moment: his title role debut as Siegfried at the Opéra de Monte-Carlo, the clearest expression yet of the territory toward which his artistry has been building. Alongside this milestone, he appears as Erik in *Der fliegende Holländer* at both Luzerner Theater and Hessisches Staatstheater Kassel, and remounts the acclaimed Karlsruhe production of Ethel Smyth's *The Wreckers*, a performance that drew critical comparisons to the demands of Wagner's *Tristan*. Concert engagements include Britten's *War Requiem* and *Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings* with the Phil Zuid in the Netherlands, *Carmina Burana* with the Philharmonia Orchestra at London's Royal Festival Hall, and *A Faust Symphony* with Theater Orchester Biel Solothurn.

The 2025/26 season confirmed his arrival on the international stage with a house debut at Luzerner Theater as Peter Grimes, performed as part of the world-renowned Lucerne Festival. Critics hailed the portrayal as “a flawless combination of dramatic force and tenor lyricism of ravishing beauty,” praising his “boundless vocal resources and commanding presence” and calling him “an artist of the highest caliber.” As a principal ensemble member at Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe, further highlights included Lensky in *Eugene Onegin*, the Chevalier de la Force in Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmélites*, the title role in Lili Boulanger's *Faust et Hélène*, a performance praised for its Wagnerian orchestral and vocal demands, and Lysander in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. On the concert stage, recent engagements have included *On Wenlock Edge* with the Philharmonisches Orchester Erfurt and *Carmina Burana* with the Oslo Philharmonic.

From 2019 to 2024, Mr. Sprague was a principal ensemble member at Theater Erfurt, where significant role debuts included the title roles of Peter Grimes, *Les contes d'Hoffmann*, and Orestes in Felix Weingartner's rediscovered masterpiece, a performance praised for “Siegfried-level stamina and dramatic command.” His title role debut as Hoffmann at Semperoper Dresden stands as a landmark guest engagement, alongside appearances at the Croatian National Theater and Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz. As an orchestral soloist, he has appeared with the Göteborgs Symfoniker, National Philharmonic of Poland, Tampere Filharmonia, and Sinfonieorchester St. Gallen, among others.

Before relocating to Europe, Mr. Sprague performed widely across the United States with Opera Colorado, Indianapolis Opera, and Chautauqua Opera, and as a soloist at Carnegie Hall. He holds a Master of Music from the Manhattan School of Music and a Bachelor of Music from Chapman University's Conservatory of Music, and is a regional prizewinner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.