DIMITRI PLATANIAS – Baritone

Born in Greece, he is now recognised as one of the foremost Verdi Baritones of his generation. Winning the **Alexandra Trianti Scholarship** enabled him to study in Italy under Masako Tanaka Protti and at the showcase concert for the winners of this bequest, Rodney Milnes said in Opera Magazine:

The most impressive singer was the baritone Dimitris Platanias, who on this showing could sing Rigoletto anywhere in the world: beautifully warm, heroic tone, a dynamic range from forte to a pianissimo that lost nothing in colour or substance, musicianship and instinctive feeling for text – a name to watch out for in the current dearth of Verdi baritones.

He went on to make his debut at Greek National Opera and his first appearance in Italy as **Gerard ANDREA CHENIER.** His debut at La Fenice di Venezia was as **RIGOLETTO,** a role that he has since made his own and it was as **RIGOLETTO** that he made his highly acclaimed debut at the Royal Opera Covent Garden, leading Richard Morrison of The Times to say: *...and the stunning Greek baritone Dimitri Platanias, making his Covent Garden debut. As for Platanias, I have rarely heard the title role sung with such gloriously sustained tone and line, or such thrilling power... a voice that I would like to hear much more.*

Debuts followed at the Bayerische Staatsoper as **SIMON BOCCANEGRA**, where he also returned for the title role of **NABUCCO** and **Montfort LES VÊPRES SICILIENNE.** His debut in the role of **STIFFILIO** at Teatro La Fenice, was repeated at Oper Frankfurt where he also appeared as **Iago OTELLO** and **Scarpia TOSCA**. At the Osterfestspiele Salzburg he appeared as **Tonio I PAGLIACCI** (*released on DVD*) and his debut at the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia was as **NABUCCO**. He combined both **Alfio CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA** and **Tonio I PAGLIACCI** at the Royal Opera Covent Garden (*released on DVD*) to much acclaim and repeated these two roles for his USA debut at San Francisco Opera. The San Francisco Chronicle said: *and Platanias, whose singing as the malevolent Tonio – and especially in the opera's prologue – displayed a wondrous new fluency and luster*, James Ambroff-Tahan of the San Francisco Examiner called him: *the smoldering baritone Dimitri Platanias, who was making his SFO debut* and Opera Warhorses referred to the I Pagliacci Prologue as *spectacularly sung by Platanias*.

He returned to the Concertgebouw Amsterdam for an outstanding **SIMON BOCCANEGRA** and to ROH Covent Garden again for **RIGOLETTO**, streamed in cinemas internationally. He made his debut at Teatro Maggio Musicale Fiorentino as **NABUCCO** and returned to Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie for **Alfio CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA.** His debut at the Hamburgische Staatsoper was as **MACBETH,** returning to sing **NABUCCO** in the challenging production by Kirill Serebrennikov. He made his debut at Teatro Real Madrid as **Conte di Luna IL TROVATORE** and enjoyed an outstanding success at ROH Covent Garden as **Gérard ANDREA CHENIER,** about which Richard Morrison of The Times wrote: *it's a showcase for great voices. And here you get one firing on all cylinders. Unfortunately, it doesn't belong to the two lovers. It's the Greek baritone Dimitri Platanias, singing with magnificent clarity and passion as the conflicted Gerard, a Scarpia with a conscience.* And Ditlev Rindom of Opera Magazine praised him as follows: *Dimitri Platanias gave one of his most committed London performances yet as Gérard, marrying his always rock-steady baritone to increasing levels of introspection. "Nemico della patria" was rightly a highlight, propelled by Platanias's excellent breath control and his sure sense of scale*.

At Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie he sang Giacomo **GIOVANNA D'ARCO,** which was enthusiastically received by the critics. OperaOnLine wrote: *A leurs côtés, le baryton grec Dimitri Platanias campe un Giacomo de haut vol. Avec son cantabile d'une grande noblesse et son phrasé souverainement raffiné, il offre une incarnation bouleversante de son personnage.* He made a return to ROH Covent Garden as Giorgio Germont *La Traviata* and Colin Clarke of Seen and Heard International called it: *A masterclass in vocal acting – really, it was all there in his fabulous, strong voice.*

In 2023 he made an outstanding role debut as **FALSTAFF** for Greek National Opera, which was praised by John Allison of Opera Magazine - April 2023: *At the head of an almost entirely Greek cast, Dimitri Platanias was singing his first Falstaff and proved himself again a serious performer with absolute grasp of the way text and*

music work together.... This was a Falstaff supremely confident in his own considerable skin, not playing the role unduly for laughs. In the first scene his interplay with Bardolfo ...Pistola, Dr Caius...and his Page... was nicely judged.
And at the Athens Festival in summer 2023 he appeared once again as **NABUCCO**, prompting Helena Matheopoulos in Opera Now - October 2023 to write: *At the premiere the title role was sung by Dimitri Platanias, a baritone well known and loved by Covent Garden audiences, who delivered one of the most rounded and moving portrayals of his career. One expected his booming baritone voice to soar in Nabucco's triumphant moments, but what surprised those who have followed his career, was the extreme vocal sensitivity and variety of colours with which he expressed his deep compassion for the crushed hero's vulnerable moments. Seldom have I been so deeply moved by a portrayal of this role.*
The end of 2024 found him back at ROH Covent Garden for **CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA and PAGLIACCI**. Andrew Lohmann of London Unattached said *As Tonio in Pagliacci he was a tour de force, unbounded strength and malice while the top of his high notes is golden and rich whilst in The Article, Mark Ronan said Among an excellent cast Dimitri Platanias as Tonio in Pagliacci delivered a truly gripping aria to the on-stage audience, promising a great performance to come. Indeed it was....*
His latest role debut was as Don Carlo *La Forza del Destino* for Greek National Opera. John Allison wrote in the April issue 2025 of Opera Magazine: *As Don Carlo, Dimitri Platanias immediately confirmed his Verdi baritone credentials, shaping darkly focused lines.*
Dimitri Platanias appears regularly with Greek National Opera at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, the Odeon of Herodes Atticus and at the Megaron Athens in both opera and concert.

Roles

AIDA: Amonasro ~ ROH Covent Garden; Teatro Regio Torino; Bregenzer Festspiele; Odeon of Herodes Atticus; Thessaloniki Opera; Teatro dell'Opera Giocosa di Savona; Teatro Goldoni di Livorno

ALCESTE: High Priest ~ Megaron Athens

ANDREA CHENIER: Gérard ~ Royal Opera Covent Garden; Greek National Opera; Teatro Sociale di Rovigo; Il Politeama di Catanzaro; Teatro Sociale di Trento; Teatro Goldoni di Livorno

UN BALLO IN MASCHERA: Renato ~ Greek National Opera

LA BOHEME: Marcello ~ Greek National Opera

CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA: Alfio ~ San Francisco Opera; Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie; ROH Covent Garden; Odeon of Herodes Atticus; Greek National Opera.

DON CARLO: Rodrigo, Marquis of Posa ~ Teatro Nacional de São Carlos

DON GIOVANNI: Leporello ~ Greek National Opera

FALSTAFF: Title role ~ Greek National Opera

FAUST: Valentin ~ Megaron Athens

LA FORZA DEL DESTINO: Don Carlo ~ Greek National Opera

LA GIOCONDA: Barnaba ~ Greek National Opera

GIOVANNA D'ARCO: Giacomo ~ Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie

LOHENGRIN: Telramund ~ Greek National Opera

MACBETH: Title role ~ Hamburgische Staatsoper

MADAMA BUTTERFLY: Sharpless ~ Odeon of Herodes Atticus

MARATHON-SALAMIS: Xerxes ~ Greek National Opera

NABUCCO: Title role ~ Hamburgische Staatsoper; Munich Festival; Bayerische Staatsoper; Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino; ROH Covent Garden; Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia Valencia; Staatstheater Stuttgart; Megaron Athens; Odeon of Herodes Atticus**;** Teatro Castello di Vigoleno; Teatro dell'Opera Giocosa di Savona

LE NOZZE DI FIGARO: Figaro ~ Greek National Opera

OTELLO: Iago ~ Oper Frankfurt; Odeon of Herodes Atticus; La Fenice di Venezia

I PAGLIACCI: Tonio ~ San Francisco Opera; ROH Covent Garden; Osterfestspiele Salzburg; Odeon of Herodes Atticus**;** Greek National Opera
O PROTOMASTORAS: The Master ~ Megaron Athens

RIGOLETTO: **Title role** ~ ROH Covent Garden; Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie; London Symphony Orchestra (Barbican Centre); Teatro La Fenice di Venezia; Teatro Massimo Palermo; Casa da Música, Porto; Greek National Opera; Concertgebouw Amsterdam

SAMSON ET DALILA: Grand Prêtre ~ Teatro G. Verdi di Trieste

SIMON BOCCANEGRA: Title role ~ Bayerische Staatsoper**;** Royal Opera Muscat; Concertgebouw Amsterdam; Greek National Opera

SIMON BOCCANEGRA: Paolo Albiani ~ ROH Covent Garden; Megaron Athens; Teatro Verdi Salerno

STIFFELIO: Stankar ~ Teatro La Fenice di Venezia; Oper Frankfurt

TOSCA: Scarpia ~ Deutsche Oper Berlin**;** Oper Frankfurt; Megaron Athens; Opera Ireland; Odeon of Herodes Atticus; Oper der Stadt Köln

LA TRAVIATA: Giorgio Germont ~ ROH Covent Garden; Teatro La Fenice di Venezia; **G**reek National Opera; Glyndebourne Festival; Odeon of Herodes Atticus;

IL TROVATORE: **Conte di Luna** ~ Teatro Real Madrid; Odeon of Herodes Atticus

I VESPRI SICILIANI: Guido di Monteforte ~ Megaron Athens

LES VEPRES SICILIANI: Montfort ~ Bayerische Staatsoper