



### **Gary Relyea -- Bass baritone**

Renowned for the richness of his voice and his compelling musical insights, bass-baritone **Gary Relyea** is one of the most distinguished artists currently before the public. He has thrilled audiences in Britten's *WAR REQUIEM*, Handel's *MESSIAH*, Mahler's *Symphony No. 8* and Verdi's *REQUIEM* with prestigious orchestras including those of Cleveland, Montreal, Toronto, Baltimore, Detroit, San Francisco, Calgary, Vancouver and Ottawa's National Arts Centre Orchestra. Mr. Relyea has been a guest soloist with the Toronto Symphony more than any other bass-baritone in the last 40 years. When he debuted with the Philadelphia Orchestra in Schönberg's *GURRELIEDER* conducted by Sir Simon Rattle it was with performances in both Philadelphia and at Carnegie Hall.

He has traveled around the globe including North America, Central America and Europe. Recent trips include: to New Zealand for performances of Mendelssohn's *ELIJAH* and Walton's *BELSHAZZAR'S FEAST* with the Christchurch City Choir under Brian Law, to Poland to sing in Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* with the Polish Radio Orchestra, to Costa Rica for performances of Beethoven's *NINTH SYMPHONY* with the Costa Rica National Symphony, and to Guatemala for Donizetti's *LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR*.

Mr. Relyea has performed extensively in opera singing forty leading roles with opera companies and summer festival productions across Canada.

His debut as *Rocco* in Beethoven's *FIDELIO* coincided with the release of his CBC disc featuring scenes from *BORIS GODUNOV* and *LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR* with the Vancouver Symphony. Titled "Thine Angel's Spirits", the disc also contains arias from Elgar's *DREAM OF GERONTIUS* and Mendelssohn's *ELIJAH*. He is also featured on CBC's "Rarities by Rossini and Verdi" and in Centre Discs' recording of Harry Somers' one act opera *THE FOOL*. He starred in CBC-TV productions of *THE BEAR* by William Walton, *ABERFAN* by Raymond Pannell, and as the *Commendatore* in *LEPORELLO'S REVENGE*, Rhombus Production's take on Don Giovanni.