

Andrew Adridge BIO Long 2023

Andrew Adridge (he/him) is a multidisciplinary artist and opera producer based in Toronto with a passion for equity and industry reform. He is a graduate of the University of Toronto, BMus. Performance (2016), and MM. Opera (2018). Credits at UofT Opera include, Bacchus in Offenbach's *Orphée aux enfers* (2016), the title role in *Don Giovanni* (2017), and Sam Jenkins in Gershwin's *Of thee I sing* (2018). He has been featured as an ensemble soloist both at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts in Toronto for Jesse Norman's Glenn Gould Prize Gala and on the Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Centre in Washington, D.C. Andrew has performed with reputable Canadian companies singing the role of Schaunard in Puccini/Ivany's *La Bohème* in Against the Grain Theatre's Canada-wide touring production, and the baritone role in Soundstreams' *Electric Messiah*. Andrew has participated in several young artist programs including The Chautauqua Institution Voice Program, and the Banff Opera program and was a 2018 finalist in Opéra de Montréal's Auditions Nationales.

He recently made his directorial debut with the Canadian Opera Company and Against the Grain Theatre as the Associate Director on Mozart's *Requiem*. He directed the Edmonton Opera Valentine's Day Gala which premiered on Global TV in February of 2022. Most recently, he has worked on two mainstage Canadian Opera Company shows, *Carmen* under Joel Ivany and *Macbeth* under Sir David McVicar. Andrew is an avid writer having contributed to both Opera Canada and Ludwig Van Toronto and continues his pursuits through his personal blog and through spoken word bringing to light issues around artistry, identity, and race.

Andrew has worked as an arts administrator with such organizations as the Association for Opera in Canada where he was a member of the first Portfolio Artist Collective, Tapestry Opera, Against the Grain Theatre, and now works as the Executive Director of the Toronto Consort. In 2022, Andrew was granted a prestigious Metcalf Foundation Performing Arts Internship in Artistic Planning which allowed him to work closely with Joel Ivany and Robin Whiffen at Against the Grain. Andrew has a passion for educating young artists and the next generation working as the Artistic Producer for the Banff Centre Opera in the 21st Century program and co-founding the national arts education collective Opera InReach. Andrew's recognizable commitment to EDIJA advancement in the arts sector has made him sought after as a panellist, consultant, and outlet contributor. He currently sits on the Board of Directors for Volcano Theatre.

This season, Andrew will assistant direct *Carmen* and *Macbeth* with the Canadian Opera Company. He will also be featured as a part of Urbanvessel's *riverMOUTH*, a initiative that will bring spoken word, song, music & soundscape to the lower Cobechenonk / Humber River with guided walks and live performances. He will once again perform as the Baritone Soloist in Soundstreams' *Electric Messiah*. Andrew is very excited to begin his journey as an arts leader as the newly established Executive Director of the Toronto Consort.