

# John Kaneklides

Hailed by Opera News as "the very picture of youthful optimism and potential," John Kaneklides is quickly establishing himself as a celebrated tenor of his time. After being named a finalist in the Nico Castel International Master Singer Competition in 2011, Kaneklides was personally championed by the prolific diction coach and opera translator - a mentorship that propelled his career in opera, art song, and oratorio.

This season, Kaneklides will return to St. Petersburg Opera to make his role debut in the title role of *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*. He will also star as Villiers in the highly anticipated New York premier of Carlisle Floyd's most recent opera, *The Prince of Players*, with the Little Opera Theatre of New York.

Additionally, Kaneklides will be a featured soloist in the Eve Queler and Friends concert series with the Opera Orchestra of New York and in Statesville, NC with Opera Experience Southeast. Offstage, Kaneklides will sing the role of Tamino in a workshop of a new English translation of the Magic Flute.

In past seasons, Kaneklides has earned notable acclaim for his portrayals of Alfredo in *La traviata*, Nemorino in *L'elisire d'amore*, Edgardo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Rodolfo in *La bohème*, Jenik in *The Bartered Bride*, Fenton in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Cassio in *Otello*, Pong in *Turandot*, Rinuccio in *Gianni Schicchi*, Laurie in *Little Women*, and Micah in Carlisle Floyd's off-Broadway production of *Slow Dusk*.

Kaneklides is quickly making a name for himself in classic musical theatre roles such as Henrik in *A Little Night Music* and Tony in "West Side Story". Last season Broadway World noted his portrayal of Lt. Joseph Cable with St. Petersburg Opera was, "chillingly real," "simply brilliant," and "whenever he sings his voice makes the audience melt." The Tampa Bay Times raved that, "his stage presence and haunting tenor delivery are a cornerstone for this production."

A decorated award-winner amongst several prestigious vocal competitions, Kaneklides holds a Raphael Bundage Young Artist Award and the Orpheus National Competition's Bel Canto Prize. He also garnered Second Prize from the Opera Guild of Charlotte Competition and received honors from the 2013 International Liederkrantz Foundation Competition, the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, and the Nico Castel International Master Singer Competition.

Kaneklides has sung around the United States with some of the nation's most recognized programs. As a young artist, he has spent summers singing for Bel canto at Caramoor in Katonah, New York and Opera North in Lebanon, New Hampshire. Other professional engagements have taken him to St. Petersburg Opera in Florida, Opera Carolina in North Carolina, and Carnegie Hall's Weill Hall in New York City.

Having made his radio debut in 2012 in The North Carolina Baroque Orchestra's recording of Handel's *Messiah* as the tenor soloist, Kaneklides is an avid oratorio singer. He has performed as the tenor soloist in works such as Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Dubois' *The Seven Last Words of Christ*, and Stainer's *The Crucifixion*.

Kaneklides is a native of North Carolina and currently resides in New York City. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in Vocal Performance from Winthrop University, as well as a bachelors in finance. Kaneklides is a student of Bill Schumann.