

Fernando Escalona, Counter-tenor



The first countertenor to join the Académie of the Opéra national de Paris, Fernando Escalona made his debut in 2020 on the stage of the Palais Garnier in the role of the Second Aunt in *Yvonne, Princesse de Bourgogne* by Philippe Boesmans, and was awarded the Prix lyrique of the AROP (Association pour le Rayonnement de l'Opéra de Paris) in March 2022.

He recently performed the role of Nerone (*L'Incoronazione di Poppea*) at the Opéra de Dijon and the Théâtre de l'Athénée in Paris, then Arnalta in the same opera at the Teatro Julio Santo Domingo in Bogotá (Colombia), again with Le Poème Harmonique conducted by Vincent Dumestre; Licida (*L'Olimpiade* by Vivaldi) at the Opéra de Nice under the direction of Jean-Christophe Spinosi; Achille (*L'Orfeo* by Sartorio) under the direction of Philippe Jarrowsky; La Morte (*Il Trionfo della Morte* by Aliotti) with Les Traversées Baroques; and the Wolf (*La petite fille, le loup et le chasseur* by Vasco

Mendonça) at the Amphithéâtre Bastille.

In concert, he has sung at the "Voix d'Automne" festival in Évian-les-Bains with Leonardo García Alarcón, at the Festival Radio-France Montpellier Occitanie with the ensemble Il Caravaggio led by Camille Delaforge, at the La Chaise-Dieu festival with Les Accents conducted by Thibault Noally (Oloferne in *La Giuditta*), in Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* with the Ensemble Matheus at the Chapelle de la Trinité in Lyon, at the Idéal festival at the Potager du Roi alongside pianist Olga Dubynska, and regularly performs in concert with Le Poème Harmonique conducted by Vincent Dumestre.

Fernando Escalona began his vocal training in Venezuela with Margot Parès-Reyna as part of El Sistema, then with Isabel Palacios at the Camerata Barroca de Caracas. He also attended masterclasses with Mirella Freni, Katia Ricciarelli, Laura Claycomb, Markus Marquardt, Michael Pinkerton, Gerald Wirth, and Chantal Mathias.

He was soloist in Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy* with the Simón Bolívar Orchestra (conducted by César Ivan-Lara), then in Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* with the Caracas Youth Orchestra (conducted by Christian Vásquez). In 2016, he joined the Centre de musique baroque de Versailles under the guidance of Olivier Schneebelli and took part in numerous ensemble productions such as *Les Horaces* by Salieri conducted by Christophe Rousset and *Les Fêtes d'Hébé* by Rameau, in collaboration with the Académie of the Opéra national de Paris and the Royal College of Music in London, under the direction of Jonathan Williams.

He was a finalist in the 2018 Marmande International Singing Competition.

Alongside his solo career, he continues his work as assistant vocal coach with the Simón Bolívar National Choir of Venezuela, of which he is a founding member and with which he has toured internationally alongside conductors such as Helmuth Rilling, Johan de Meij, Sir Simon Rattle, Claudio Abbado, and Gustavo Dudamel.

Fernando Escalona has been represented by RSB Artists agency since 2020.

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Repertoire

Composer	Work	Role
Bach	Johannes Passion	Alto solo
Boesmans	Yvonne, Princesse de Bourgogne	La Deuxième tante*
Britten	A Midsummer Night's Dream	Oberon
Gluck	Orphée et Eurydice	Orphée
Haendel	Alcina	Bradamante
Haendel	Ariodante	Ariodante / Polinesso
Haendel	Giulio Cesare in Egitto	Giulio Cesare / Nireno / Tolomeo
Haendel	Messiah	Alto solo*
Haendel	Rinaldo	Eustazio
Haendel	Rodelinda	Bertarido / Unulfo
Haendel	Serse	Arsamene
Monteverdi	L'Incoronazione di Poppea	Nerone* / Ottone
Mozart	Ascanio in Alba	Ascanio
Mozart	Mitridate	Farnace
Mozart	Requiem	Alto solo*
Offenbach	La Belle Hélène	Oreste
Pergolesi	Stabat Mater	Alto Solo
Rimski-Korsakov	Snegourotchka	Lel*
Sartorio	L'Orfeo	Achilla*
Scarlatti	La Giuditta	Oloferne*
Strauss J.	Die Fledermaus	Orlovsky
Vivaldi	L'Olimpiade	Licida*
Vivaldi	Stabat Mater	Alto solo*

* sung on stage or coming - non exhaustive list

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