Fernando Escalona, Counter-tenor



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

He has also performed the role of Nerone (*L'Incoronazione di Poppea*) at the Opéra de Dijon and the Théâtre de l'Athénée in Paris, and later Arnalta in the same opera at the Teatro Julio Santo Domingo in Bogotá (Colombia). He appeared as Spirit (*Dido and Aeneas*) at the Festival d'Utrecht, La Seine Musicale in Paris, and on tour, always with Le Poème Harmonique under the direction of Vincent Dumestre. Other notable engagements include Licida (*L'Olimpiade* by Vivaldi) at the Opéra de Nice under Jean-Christophe Spinosi, Achille (*L'Orfeo* by Sartorio) under the direction of Philippe Jaroussky, La Morte (*Il Trionfo della Morte* by Aliotti) with Les Traversées Baroques, and Le Loup (*La petite fille, le loup et le chasseur* by Vasco Mendonça) at the Amphithéâtre Bastille.

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

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

A soloist in Beethoven's *Fantaisie Chorale* with the Orquesta Simón Bolívar under César Iván-Lara, and later in Orff's *Carmina Burana* with the Orquesta de Jóvenes de Caracas under Christian Vásquez, he joined the Centre de musique baroque de Versailles in 2016 under the guidance of Olivier Schneebeli. There he participated in numerous productions, including Salieri's *Les Horaces* conducted by Christophe Rousset and Rameau's *Les Fêtes d'Hébé*, in collaboration with the Académie de l'Opéra national de Paris and the Royal College of Music in London under the direction of Jonathan Williams.

He was a finalist in the Concours international de chant de Marmande in 2018.

Highlights of his 2026–2027 season include Medoro (*Orlando*) and Le Lapin blanc (*Alice au pays des Merveilles*) at the Opéra de Nice, as well as Lalande's *Leçons de ténèbres* with Le Poème Harmonique.

Alongside his career as a soloist, he continues his work as Assistant Vocal Coach with the Coro Nacional Simón Bolívar de Venezuela, of which he is a founding member. With the choir, he has taken part in numerous international tours under conductors such as Helmuth Rilling, Johan de Meij, Sir Simon Rattle, Claudio Abbado, and Gustavo Dudamel.

Fernando Escalona has been represented by RSBA since 2020.

November 2026 - Not to be altered without permission. We update our biographies regularly. Please contact RSB Artists before reproducing the biography.

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

Contacts

Réda SIDI-BOUMEDINE / Artits manager / rsb@rsbartists.com / +33 6 747 617 97
Nicolas JOUVE / Artistic delegate /nj@rsbartists.com / +33 6 84 84 12 45