



## Leigh Melrose

### Baritone



**Contact:**

Maria Mot (Director MWA)

**Number:** +447747487997

**Email:**

[maria@mwamanagement.com](mailto:maria@mwamanagement.com)

Rosina Acosta (Associate Artist Manager)

**Number:** +44 7341 637227

**Email:**

[rosina@mwamanagement.com](mailto:rosina@mwamanagement.com)

Leigh Melrose, 'the specialist of 20th-century opera' (The Financial Times), has carved out a formidable reputation for the performance of new works and dramatic 20th century repertoire. A wonderfully dynamic artist in both operas and concerts, his performances as *Wozzeck* (Opernhaus Zürich and English National Opera); Enescu's *Œdipe* (Komische Oper Berlin), Alberich *Das Rheingold* (Wiener Staatsoper, Ruhrtriennale and English National Opera) Clov in the world premiere of György Kurtág's *Fin de Partie* (Teatro alla Scala, Opéra de Paris and Dutch National Opera) and Prospero in Thomas Adès' *The Tempest* (Teatro Alla Scala) have earned wide critical and public acclaim.

In the 2025/26 season, Melrose will begin with a double appearance as Clov in Kurtág's *Fin de Partie* at the Enescu Festival and the Norwegian National Opera before making his house debut at Grand Théâtre de Genève as Golaud *Pelléas et Mélisande*. He will join the Berliner Philharmoniker and Kirill Petrenko as Alberich *Das Rheingold* at the Salzburg Easter Festival. Melrose will also collaborate again with acclaimed director, Calixto Bieito in two projects – Hèctor Parra's *Orgia* with Ensemble intercontemporain and Shostakovich's Symphony No.14 at Teatro Arriaga. Other engagements include the baritone soloist in Lili Boulanger's *Faust et Hélène*; Nekrotzar *Le grand Macabre* at the Helsinki Festival; and Britten's *War Requiem* at Southwark Cathedral with the Outcry Ensemble.

Last season, Melrose made anticipated debuts as Balstrode in a new production of *Peter Grimes* at the Dutch National Opera, the title role in Beat Furrer's new opera *Das grosse Feuer* at Opernhaus Zürich; and Eurymaque in a new production of Fauré's *Pénélope* which inaugurated the Opera Festival at the Bayerische Staatsoper. Melrose returned to the Dutch National Opera and the role of Kajin in Rudi Stephan's *Die ersten Menschen* and also to Müpa Budapest for James MacMillan's *Christmas Oratorio*. Other recent engagements included a series of very exciting projects and role debuts as Beckmesser in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* at the Teatro Real in a new production by acclaimed French director Laurent Pelly and as Šiškov in a new production opera by Dimitri Tcherniakov at Ruhrtriennale of Janáček's *From the House of the Dead*. Further highlights included Ned Keene at Teatro alla Scala in a new *Peter Grimes* directed by Robert Carsen and Don Pizarro *Fidelio* at the Staatsoper Hamburg.

Recent successes include Prospero in Thomas Adès' *The Tempest* at Teatro alla Scala where he also premiered György Kurtág' *Fin de Partie*; a hugely acclaimed debut in the title role of Enescu's *Œdipe* in a new production at the Komische Oper Berlin; Nekrotzar in a new production of Ligeti's *Le Grand Macabre* in Zürich; Clov *Fin de Partie* at Dutch National Opera and Opéra national de Paris; Ruprecht in Calixto Bieito's production of Prokofiev *The Fiery Angel* at Zurich Opera where he also performed the title role of *Wozzeck*; Alberich *Das Rheingold* in new productions at Staatsoper Stuttgart, English National Opera and Ruhrtriennale; Kajin in Bieito's new production of Rudi Stephan's *Die ersten Menschen* at Dutch National Opera and the world premiere of Héctor Parra's *Orgia*, after Pier Paolo Pasolini's play in a project imagined by Calixto Bieito at the Teatro Arriaga Antzokia in Bilbao. Closely associated with Teatro Real, Madrid his many triumphs there include The Traveller *Death in Venice*; Friedrich *Das Liebesverbot*; Ruprecht *The Fiery Angel* and Richard Nixon *Nixon in China* for which he was awarded one of the Artistic Prizes at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Teatro Real Awards in recognition for his extraordinary contribution to several productions at the Teatro Real.

One of the most sought-after interpreters of contemporary music, Leigh Melrose has given many world premieres, including Louis Andriessen's exhilarating *Theatre of the World* at Dutch National Opera and with the Los Angeles Philharmonic; Dai Fujikura's *Solaris* - a co-production between Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Opéra de Lille and Opéra de Lausanne; Johannes Kalitzke's *Die Besessenen* at Theater an der Wien; Elliot Carter's *On Conversing with Paradise* at the Aldeburgh Festival under Oliver Knussen (also nominated for a Gramophone Award for 'Best Contemporary Album'); Luca Francesconi's *Quartett* at Royal Ballet & Opera; and Evan in James MacMillan's *The Sacrifice* at Welsh National Opera. Other performances include his debut at the Maggio Musicale Festival in Florence singing Rihm's *Der maler träumt*; the title role in Birtwistle's *Gawain* with BBC Symphony Orchestra; Matthias Pintscher's *Songs from Solomon's Garden* with the Ensemble Intercontemporain in Paris conducted by the composer; Rambo in the Channel 4 television film of John Adams' *The Death of Klinghoffer*; Michael Collins in Jonathan Dove's TV opera *Man on the Moon* for Channel 4; Punch in Birtwistle's *Punch and Judy* in Porto; Xenakis' *Ais* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra at the BBC Proms and Berlin Festival; Peter Maxwell Davies' *The Martyrdom of St Magnus* at the composer's St Magnus Festival in Orkney, Edinburgh, and Inverness; Maxwell-Davies' *Eight Songs for a Mad King* with the Orquesta de Cadaqués in Madrid, with the London Sinfonietta at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, with BIT20 in Bergen and with the Arctic Philharmonic Orchestra; Michael Finnissy's *Maldon* with the London



Sinfonietta at the Queen Elizabeth Hall and the world premiere of Martin Suckling's *Candlebird*, also with the London Sinfonietta under Nicholas Collon.

Leigh Melrose is represented by MWA worldwide.  
2025-26 season / 875 words. Not to be altered without permission