

Brian Hunter, Tenor

Shorter Version

For more than a decade, Tenor Brian Hunter sang and arranged for the famed Welch Chorale of St. Phillip Neri Church in the Bronx. His solo career began with his 1995 Carnegie Recital Hall debut in a sold-out salute to John McCormack. Brian now performs one of the most extensive international repertoires, including American, English, French, German, Italian, Irish, Latin, and Spanish.

He is a frequent star as both a Classical and an Irish Tenor on major cruise ships, including many voyages on Silversea, Cunard and Sea Cloud Cruises, collaborating with such stars as the Metropolitan Opera's Roberta Peters, Sherrill Milnes, Victoria Livengood and Rebecca Copley, Concert Pianists Max Barros, Gins Berzins, John De Maio, Richard Dowling, Bill Lewis, Peter Mack, Louis Menendez and Einar Stein-Nockelberg, and violinist Yuri Vodovoz. He has entertained numerous German and English speaking audiences on the Danube, Rhine, Main and Moselle Rivers, as well as international audiences on world cruises. New York performances have included Viennese-themed concerts at Christie's Auction Gallery and the Dahesh Museum. Brian's other New York solo concerts include Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, the Metropolitan Club, the Kosciusko Foundation and Steinway Hall.

On the operatic stage, Brian has performed Rodolfo (*La Bohème*), Count Almaviva (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*) Tamino (*The Magic Flute*), Alfredo (*La Traviata*), Luka in the New York premiere of Donald Grantham's *The Boor*, as well as a variety of musical and light operatic roles from Billy Crocker (*Anything Goes*) to Valentine White (*Babes in Arms*) to Mr. Box (*Cox and Box*). He appeared for two seasons with the Palm Beach Opera.

A composer as well, Brian makes his home in Manhattan, where he has given concerts in numerous venues, including Carnegie Hall, Christie's Gallery, Dahesh Museum, Kosciusko Foundation, Lincoln Center, Metropolitan Club and Steinway Hall.

Brian gave his Dublin debut at the National Concert Recital Hall to critical acclaim and recently gave his Lincoln Center Debut at Alice Tully Hall in an all-Irish Celebration of Celtic Song, Music and Dance with the famed Irish Folk Group, *Cherish The Ladies*. He made his solo TV debut as the Irish Tenor for the NBC broadcast of the 2002 St. Patrick's Day Parade. He performed with the West Virginia Symphony as their Irish Tenor, receiving high critical and popular acclaim, and a prompt reengagement for their summer outdoor festival. His own orchestrations at these concerts were also well received. His recording, *The Same Great Love Song*, is dominated by his Irish tenor repertoire. Recent performances have also included collaboration with the Alaria Chamber Ensemble at Carnegie Recital Hall, performing Beethoven settings of traditional Irish and Scottish Songs to critical acclaim, as well as numerous guest appearances with Irish bands, especially Paddy Noonan's.

As a composer, he has just completed his first choral symphony with tenor, gospel and classical choirs, piano soloist and orchestra. Brian makes his home in Manhattan.

Longer Version

For more than a decade, Tenor Brian Hunter sang and arranged for the famed Welch Chorale of St. Phillip Neri Church in the Bronx. His solo career began with his 1995 Carnegie Recital Hall debut in a sold-out salute to John McCormack, after being named Catholic New Yorker of the Week by the Diocesan newspaper *Catholic New York*, at the time under John Cardinal O'Connor's tenure. Brian now performs one of the most extensive international repertoires, including American, German, French, Italian, Spanish, English, Latin and Irish. His recording, *The Same Great Love Song*, is dominated by his Irish tenor repertoire, and is thematically summed by his original lyrics and music in the title track.

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Recent performances have also included collaboration with the Alaria Chamber Ensemble at Carnegie Recital Hall performing a number of Beethoven's settings of Irish and Scottish Songs to critical acclaim, numerous guest appearances with The Paddy Noonan Band in the tri-state area as well as in Florida and Texas, and being chosen by Eily O'Grady-Patterson, the widow of Frank Patterson, to perform with her at a memorial service that Mr. Patterson was to have sung. Brian has also appeared on the prestigious Warfield Concert Series in Helena, Arkansas, and he performed with the West Virginia Symphony on March 17, 2001, as their Irish Tenor, receiving high critical and popular acclaim, and a prompt reengagement for their summer outdoor festival. His own orchestrations at these concerts were also well received.

In Savannah Onstage's 2001 MacAllister American Traditions Vocal Competition, Brian was not just the only male competitor to win, out of 47 quarterfinalists, he was the only male to get to the semifinals. Although the competition favors American composers, the 2001 competition allowed for World War I era songs – which included *MacNamara's Band* and *Roses of Picardy*. From the first hearing of his audition tape, the buzz went around that an Irish tenor had entered the competition! The following year, Savannah Onstage engaged him along with two other previous winners for six cabaret performances that took place concurrent with the 2002 competition.

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