**Long Bio**

Canadian Bass-Baritone Chad Louwerse was singled out in Chabrier’s *l’Étoile* by Claude Gingras of La Presse who wrote, “for pure comedy, first distinction goes to Chad Louwerse.” Chad made his European debut with l’Opéra National du Rhin in Strasbourg as Bernadino in Berlioz’ *Benvenuto Cellini* and in Canada he has been heard from British Columbia to Quebec. Most recently he performed the role of the British Major in Montreal Opera’s production of *Silent Night* by Kevin Puts and the Friar in Vancouver Opera’s production if Verdi’s *Don Carlo.*

In past seasons Mr. Louwerse has sung Alidoro in Rossini’s *La Cenerentola* and Palémon in *Thaïs* for Pacific Opera Victoria, Capulet in *Roméo et Juliette* and Talpa in *Il Tabarro* with Montreal Opera, and Hortensius in Edmonton Opera’s *La Fille De Régiment*. He has appeared with Vancouver Opera as The Nazarene in *Salome,* The Bailiff in *Werther,* Zaretsky and Captain Petrovich in *Eugene Onegin*, and as Monterone in *Rigoletto*. He was also featured in the Lanaudière Festival’s *Der Vampyr* conducted by Jean Marie Zeitouni.

He is a winner of both the CBC Westcoast Performance Pacific Spotlight competition and the Début competition and has given recitals broadcast on CBC Radio Two.  On CD, he can be heard in excerpts of Robert Turner’s opera *Vile Shadows* and Sylvia Rickard’s song-cycle *Three Chinese Songs Of Autumn* for the Canadian Music Centre.  He was a member of Montreal Opera’s Atelier Lyrique for two seasons and was also named to the Jeunes Ambassadeurs Lyriques.  An active oratorio singer and recitalist, Mr. Louwerse’s concert repertoire includes Handel’s *Messiah,* the Bach *Mass in B-minor*, the Brahms and Mozart *Requiem* and Mendelssohn’s *Elijah*.

Mr. Louwerse is also pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Western University where he studies with internationally recognized baritone Ted Baerg. His research focuses on the songs of Czech composer Victor Ullmann. While at Western he has sung the roles of Falstaff in Verdi’s *Falstaff*, Marcello in Puccini’s *La Bohème*, Don Iñigo Gomez in Ravel’s *L’Heure Espagñole*, and Don Magnifico in Rossini’s *La Cenerentola* with conductor Alain Trudel and director Michael Cavanaugh.