



Xavier Sabata

Countertenor

L'Alessandro Amante, Vespres D'Arnadi, Dani Espasa

... a singer whose work has always combined beauty, intelligence and psychological perception in equal measure...Sabata sings this complex programme with his customary elegance and flair. His dark, warm alto has always sounded good in slower arias, where the long lines flow with ease and his breath control is exemplary.... His coloratura, always placed at the service of characterisation or drama, can be spectacular.

Tim Ashley, Gramophone, April 2019

HANDEL Ottone, Il Pomo d'Oro, Petrou. CD

...the beauty of Xavier Sabata's countertenor gives his lustful Adelberto a drooping, honeyed tone entirely appropriate for an aria such as 'Bel labbro'...

Brian Robins, Opera, August 2017

... he [Xavier Sabata] brings emotionality and intelligence to the role of Adelberto, delivering an exquisitely poised account of 'Bel labbro'.

Anna Picard, BBC Music Magazine September 2017

CESTI L'Oronhea – Frankfurt Opera and Museum Orchestra, Monteverdi Continuo Ensemble, Ivor Bolton. CD

There are stylish performances from Guy de Mey and the countertenor, Xavier Sabata, who makes an impressive debut in the role of the destitute painter Alidoro.

Iain Fenlon, Gramophone, June 2017

CATHARSIS CD - Armonia Atenea / Petrou

... a supple, communicative voice that is honeyed and forthright by turns.

Erica Jeal, The Guardian, March 2016

...this recital album's intelligent variety of dramatic atmospheres give Xavier Sabata and Armonia Atenea a vivid workout. The music-making is never devoid of interest and richness ...

David Vickers, Gramophone, May 2017

...his singing of lyrical music is unfailingly rewarding, especially since he also boasts an excellent *messa di voce*... Sabata is also excellent with *passaggi*, articulating with precision and a high level of musicality...

Brian Robins, Opera, August 2017

Polinesso Ariodante – Scottish Opera

In his first fully staged role in a British production, Sabata adds swagger and star quality, using his huge hands, opulent vibrato and baritone laughter with panache.

Anna Picard, The Sunday Times, February 2016

At the heart of that cycle is Ariodante's love rival, Polinesso. In the expert hands of Catalan counter-tenor Xavier Sabata, this evil schemer becomes a cross between cartoon cad Dick Dastardly and Shakespeare's loathsome villain Iago.

Mark Brown, The Telegraph, February 2016



Tamerlano –Il Pomo d’Oro - Barbican Hall, London

You could also cherish sections of Xavier Sabata’s Tamerlano (honeyed but heated) ...

Geoff Brown, The Times, November 2015

***I Dilettanti* CD - Latinitas Nostra / Chryssicos**

Then there’s Sabata’s singing, intelligent yet risky, and frequently deploying baritone chest tones as well as his immaculate alto. ... Outstanding.

5 Stars, Tim Ashley, The Guardian, January 2015

HANDEL *Bad Guys* CD – Il Pomo d’Oro / Minasi

Sabata has one of the richest of counter-tenor voices, his warmth of tone carrying intimations of decadence. A perceptive vocal actor, he gets to the essence of his protagonists... The beauty of Sabata’s singing is breathtaking, however unsettling his characters...

Tim Ashley, The Guardian, February 2013