

<b>Richard Hobson</b>	2230 Cruger Ave. Apt. CC Bronx, NY 10467
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Richard Hobson is acclaimed for the “strong dramatic persona” he brings to his performances. Appearances have taken him throughout the USA to companies including the **Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera, The Dallas Opera, Baltimore Opera, Mississippi Opera, Shreveport Opera, and Michigan Opera Theater**. In his Italian operatic debut, he was heard as Amonasro at the **Teatro Strehler** (Milano, Italy) in the new Franco Zeffirelli production of *Aida* in the summer of 2001.

Mr. Hobson is presently employed at Southern University in Baton Rouge, La. At Southern, Richard is an Affiliate Artist who teaches voice and he is also Director of Opera. Since he arrived at Southern in 2005, Richard has produced and directed numerous operas including **Die Fledermaus, Cosi fan Tutte, The Crucible, Porgy And Bess, The Telephone** and **Amahl And The Night Visitors** to name a few.

Prior to coming to Southern University, Mr. Hobson taught voice at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ, The University of Central Arkansas in Conway, Arkansas, Peabody Preparatory School in Baltimore, The University of Maryland, Coppin State University, and Morgan State University in Baltimore, Md.

Mr. Hobson holds a BA in Music from Hamline University in St. Paul, MN., a MM in Vocal Performance from The University of Michigan, and an ABD from The University of North Texas. Richard has also done post graduate in Opera Performance and French And German Art Song Literature at The Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore.

In the 2013-2014 season, Mr. Hobson returns to the Metropolitan Opera to participate in **The Nose** and **Die Frau ohne Schatten**, after having appeared in August 2013 in a very successful series of performances for the Outdoor Szeged Festival in Szeged, Hungary.

In the 2011-2012 season, Mr. Hobson returned to Opera Delaware in May to sing the title role of Porgy in a successful offering of Gershwin’s masterpiece. He made a recording of the commissioned song cycle **Dispatch from the Killing Floor**, by New Jersey composer, Gary Eskow, set to the Civil War prose of Walt Whitman. Mr. Hobson also debuted at The Teatro San Carlo in Naples where he sang Jake in **Porgy and Bess**. On August 18<sup>th</sup>, he was the featured vocalist on a successful fund raiser for the re-election of President Barack Obama.

The 2010-2011 season was a busy one for Mr. Hobson. He participated in the highly successful new Metropolitan Opera production of Verdi’s **Don Carlo**. In addition to his

Met commitments, Mr. Hobson returned to Chelsea Opera as Count Almaviva in **Le Nozze di Figaro**. For Amore Opera, Mr. Hobson showed his vocal versatility by performing Scarpia in Puccini's **Tosca**, and later that season, Dr. Falke in **Die Fledermaus**. This season also presented Richard as bass soloist in a complete performance of Handel's **Messiah** with The Essex Chorale in East Orange, New Jersey.

In 2009-2010 Mr. Hobson began the season by singing in **The Nose** by Shostakovich in a highly successful new production at The Metropolitan Opera. He was heard as Rigoletto with Bleecker Street Opera in New York as well. In the summer of 2010, Richard did a successful tour of Germany, Spain and Greece as Porgy in **Porgy and Bess**.

In March of the 2004-2005 season, Richard made a very successful debut with The Delaware Opera as Porgy in *Porgy and Bess*. He also sang in *Samson and Dalilah* with the Metropolitan Opera and did his first Iago in *Othello* with Regina Opera in Brooklyn, New York. In October 2005, Mr. Hobson debuted with Gateway Classical Music Society as Amonasro in Verdi's *Aida* in Manhattan. He also sang the Four Villains in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* with Taconic Opera in Westchester, NY.

He began the 2003-2004 season at the Metropolitan Opera in their new production of *La Juive* by Halevy. He subsequently appeared in *Boris Goudonov* and *Madama Butterfly*. The 2002-2003 season featured a return to the **Handel Choir of Baltimore** for their annual performances of *Messiah*. In the summer of 2003 Mr. Hobson sang Germont in *La Traviata* in New Jersey's **Metro Lyric Opera**. In the spring he returned to the roster of the **Metropolitan Opera** for their new production of *Les Troyens*.

The 2001-2002 season began at the **Metropolitan Opera**, where he was heard as 'One-Eyed Brother' in their much heralded production of *Die Frau Ohne Schatten* (Strauss), and as Yamadori in *Madama Butterfly*. That season also held debuts at **Pittsburgh Opera** as Henry Davis in Kurt Weill's *Street Scene*, and at **Austin Lyric Opera** in the title role in *Rigoletto*. Mr. Hobson also sang Enrico in *Lucia di Lammermoore* and Marcello in *La Boheme* in New Jersey's **Metro Lyric Opera** productions in August 2002.

Career highlights include his **Metropolitan Opera** debut as Yamadori in *Madama Butterfly*, and his **New York City Opera** debut in the title role of Porgy in *Porgy & Bess*. At both Nashville Opera and Toledo Opera, Richard debuted as Sharpless in *Madama Butterfly*, and his first Scarpia (*Tosca*) for **Houston Ebony Opera Guild**. Richard sang his first *Rigoletto* in a concert version with the **Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra**, and his debut at the **Spoleto Festival USA** as the Sorceress in *Dido and Aeneas*.

An outstanding musician, he has interpreted leading roles in world premiere performances of several new works including: Josiah in *Harriet, the Woman Called Moses* with **Skylight Opera Theatre**; General Vorchieliff in Hoiby's *Something New for the Zoo* at **Prince**

**Georges Opera**; the title role in *Martin Luther: Dramatic Oratorio, A Voice Crying in the Wilderness* by Nat Irving with the **Dallas Symphony**; and Rogue in *The Idiot*, a work-in-progress at **The Banff Music Centre** in Canada.

In the media, Richard has appeared in a televised aria concert with the **Baltimore Symphony**. Awards are numerous including the **Sullivan Foundation Career Grant, Metropolitan Opera Guild National Council Auditions, Caruso Competition, Pavarotti Competition; Dallas Opera Guild Career Grant; Baltimore Music Club, and the American Traditions Competition.**