



Thomas Ruud (Norway)
Tenor

Thomas Ruud, tenor, was born in Oslo, Norway, and started singing at the age of six in a boys' choir. He received his musical training from the Academy of Operatic Art in Oslo, and from the University of the Pacific in California, USA.

In 1994 he made his debut at the Norwegian National Opera as Count Almaviva in «*The Barber of Seville*», and this performance was broadcasted on television by NRK (Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation). Since then, Thomas has reprised the role in more than 150 performances. His repertoire includes many of the most significant tenor roles, such as Don José in *Carmen*, Pinkerton in *Madame Butterfly*, Rodolfo in *La Bohème*, Cavaradossi in *Tosca*, Pollione in *Norma*, Hoffmann in *The Tales of Hoffmann*, Steva Burya in *Jenufa*, and the title role in *Faust*.

Thomas has been engaged at some of the most important opera houses in Germany, such as the Staatsoper Stuttgart, and the Staatsoper Hannover. He has also worked with conductors such as Patrick Fournillier, Timo Handschuh, Andreas Schüller, Christian Lindberg, Peter Szilvay, Eivind Gullberg Jensen and Kjell Seim, and with stage directors such as Dietrich Hilsdorf, Calixto Bieito, Enrique Mazzola, Lisa Kent and Ronald Rørvik.

He freelances as a soloist throughout the world, including the USA, Mexico and New Zealand.