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BIOGRAPHY IN A NUTSHELL (2024)

Thomas Weinhappel – born in Lower **Austria** - has always set high standards for himself. Since his time with the **Vienna Boys' Choir**, and at the **Vienna University of arts** his natural optimism has sparked his determination to shape the future and to accept daunting challenges.

Encouraged by the **Wagner specialist Stefan Mickisch**, he took advantage of the forced Corona break to further cultivate his talents and to develop **from a lyric into a heroic baritone**.

Although he received the two **highest ranking Czech opera prizes** for his lyrical **Hamlet** in 2017 (Thalia - Best Opera Singer, and Libuska – for the most unusual role interpretation) and was very well noted as **Escamillo** (Singapore 2016), **Tarquinius** (Ostrava 2018), **Wolfram** (Berlin 2019), **Don Giovanni** (Paris 2020) and **Marcello** (Vienna 2022), these successes were not his ultimate goal.

On the contrary: He used the lockdown period and reinvented himself, especially in Wagner roles that he highly valued, such as **Telramund**, **Wolfram**, **Amfortas**, **Holländer**, **Klingsor**, **Wotan** and other German roles **Kaspar**, **Pizarro**, **Jochanaan** and **Mandryka**.

In February 2023 he performed **Escamillo** at the theatre of Baden, in July 2023 **Posa** at the festival of Klosterneuburg (Vienna) and **Danilo** in October 2023 at Opera House of Peking (NCPA) in China.

At several Wagner solo-evenings in Peking, Paris and Vienna 2023 and 2024 he was nominated by journalists and opera critics to be the brand new and upcoming Wagner god **Wotan**.

In June 2024 he debuted as **Telramund** at the Sofia Wagner Festival and sang **Kaspar** at the Eutin Festival (Germany) in July 2024, for which he was particularly praised in Bremerhaven in 2022.

In 2025 he is looking forward to his debut as **Scarpia** at the theatre of Baden.