Baritone **Jeffrey Grayson Gates** is a Texas native whose captivating, artful performances have won the admiration of audiences and critics throughout the United States. He was hailed by The Baltimore Sun as having "vocal spark" as well as a "thundering presence" by DC Metro Theater Arts for his performance as *Don Giovanni* at Lyric Opera Baltimore. Mr. Gates was a Regional Finalist of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in both the Mid-West and Mid-Atlantic regions, a winner of the Vocal Arts DC Young Artists Competition, the Naftzger Young Artist Auditions, Outstanding Studio Artist at Central City Opera, and the Stephen Dickson Encouragement Award. Mr. Gates received a Bachelor of Music degree from Oklahoma City University, studying under Dr. William Nield Christensen, and a Graduate Performance Diploma from the Peabody Conservatory, studying under William Sharp. He has also studied under baritone Stephen Powell and Dr. Courtney Kalbacker.

Among his widespread repertoire of operatic roles, performance highlights include: *Don Giovanni*, Count Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Germont, Baron Duphol, and Marchese d'Obigny in *La Traviata*, Schaunard in *La Boheme*, Malatesta in *Don Pasquale*, Figaro in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, Harlequin in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Angelotti and Sciarrone in *Tosca*, Happy and Sid in *La Fanciulla del West*, Tarquinius in *The Rape of Lucretia*, Mr. Gedge in *Albert Herring*, Frederic and Nilakantha in *Lakme*, Pirate King in *The Pirates of Penzance*, Horace Tabor in *The Ballad of Baby Doe*, Eisenstein and Falke in *Die Fledermaus*, Elder McLean in *Susannah*, Count Homonay in *The Gypsy Baron*, Polonio and Primo Becchino in *Amleto*, Rambaldo in *La Rondine*, Nick Shadow in *The Rake's Progress*, Rev. Hale in *The Crucible*, and Zaretsky in *Eugene Onegin*. He has performed as a young artist with Central City Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Opera Saratoga, Kentucky Opera, and Light Opera Oklahoma. Mr. Gates has been a member of the Washington National Opera Chorus since 2016.

In addition to opera and musical theatre, Mr. Gates has extensive experience as a soloist on the concert stage. His concert repertoire includes: Händel's *Messiah*, Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Bach's *St John Passion*, Fauré's *Requiem*, Duruflé's *Requiem*, Haydn's *Nelson Mass* and *Mass in Time of War*, Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs*, *Dona Nobis Pacem*, and *Hodie*, Dubois' *Seven Last Words of Christ*, and Schumann's *Szenen aus Goethes Faust*. Mr. Gates has performed as a soloist with many prestigious organizations throughout the United States, including: Richmond Symphony, Charleston Symphony, Maryland Symphony, Oklahoma City Philharmonic, Alexandria Symphony, Susquehanna Symphony, York Symphony, Oklahoma City University Symphony, Londontowne Symphony, McLean Youth Orchestra, Washington Master Chorale, Annapolis Chorale, Live Arts Maryland, Harrisburg Choral Society, New Jersey Master Chorale, Harford Choral Society, and Deer Creek Chorale. He performed a series of art song recitals with Vocal Arts DC, including a recital on the Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.