

Performing Arts Bio

ROBERT WILLIAM CORL



Bob holds a **Master of Music Degree (Opera Performance)** and a **Bachelor of Music Education Degree** from Temple University in Philadelphia. He was principal tenor for Philadelphia's Bel Canto Lyric Opera and for **Opera Pacifica** in Olympia, for which he was co-founder, VP and Vocal Director. He sought and won 501(c)(3) non-profit status for Opera Pacifica, and facilitated the 2003 purchase of the Fox Theater in Centralia (selling it back to the City 5 years later after major renovations were completed).

A versatile and veteran actor and opera performer, he has delighted audiences performing leading tenor roles in: *La Boheme*, *Die Fledermaus*, *La Traviata*, *Il Trovatore*, *Il Tabarro*, *Benvenuto Cellini*, *The Beggars Opera*, *Madame Butterfly*, *Manon*, *The Magic Flute*, *Carmen*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *Turandot* and *Werther*.

He has prepared opera roles with such notable opera coaches as Robert Lawrence (Metropolitan Opera Broadcasts and Friends of French Opera, NYC) and Nico Castel (Metropolitan Opera and Julliard, NYC). He has performed numerous principal roles in operettas, Broadway musicals and plays, including *The Gondoliers* and *Princess Ida* (both at Philadelphia's Academy of Music opera house with the Savoy Company in Philadelphia, America's oldest G&S company, founded in 1908), *HMS Pinafore*, *Ruddigore*, *Trial by Jury*, *Oliver*, *The Music Man*, *Showboat*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Carousel*, *Auntie Mame*, *12 Angry Men* and *Mr. Roberts*. His opera and operetta directing credits include *The Marriage of Figaro* and *The Mikado*, and he directed the stage play, *Auntie Mame*.

At the Kenneth J. Minnaert Center for the Arts (SPSCC), he starred as *Tevye* in the 2007 production of *Fiddler on the Roof*, and as *Max Bialystock* in the 2009 production of the Mel Brook's hit, *The Producers*, and played lead guitar in the pit orchestra for their production of *Grease*.

Bob recorded an opera album (CD) of a dozen world famous tenor arias, *An American Tenor in China* with the China Opera and Dance Symphony (conducted by Claudia Simpson-Jones) in Beijing, China (*tracks available on line at operapacifica.org – click on Vocal Director*). This album is in the process of being re-distributed through Bob's production company, RC Publications. Bob performed opera arias under contract for the **Venetian Hotel and Casino** in Las Vegas and for the Macaroni Grille restaurant chain. He also starred in an independent film, *The Prince of Arthur Avenue*, as *mafia Don, Frank Bernardo*, based on a story by former NYPD detective, Pat Piciarelli. Bob is a singer/songwriter and plays lead guitar and sings lead vocals in the band, *Soulberg*. He teaches guitar and voice and is writing a new book called, "The Guitar Book."

3 Fun Facts about Bob:

When Bob was 8 years old he was a drummer boy and marched in the St. Patrick's Day Parade on 5th Avenue in New York City, his home town.

Bob bought his first Harley when he was still in high school, and has been a 'biker' ever since.

A Vietnam Veteran, Bob was an undercover Army Intelligence operative (Intelligence Analyst and French Interpreter/Translator) during the Vietnam War and worked with the Air Force, Navy, CIA and Air America, receiving the prestigious Joint Services Commendation Medal, among others.

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