




# Marcus Nance

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## CONTACT

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[www.marcusnance.com](http://www.marcusnance.com)

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Vocal Tutorial Instructor with over thirty years experience as a performer in opera, theatre, television, film, and concert. Enthusiastic educator and mentor with a successful track record in helping students find and develop a healthy, unique voice with the ability to perform in many styles.

### Areas of expertise:

- Bel Canto Vocal Technique
- Contemporary Vocal Technique
- Acting for Singers (stage, camera)
- Career Development and Business Practices
- Diversity and Inclusion in the Arts
- Audition Technique
- Concert/Cabaret Creation

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## EDUCATION

**Graduate Studies:** Voice and Opera

**University of Illinois** – Champaign/Urbana

1991-1993

**Graduate Studies:** Voice and Opera

**University of Texas** – Austin

1988-1991

**Bachelor of Arts:** Voice and Opera

**California State University** – Fresno

May 1988

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## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

### Vocal Instructor

**Stratford Summer Music Vocal Academy** – Stratford, Ontario

- Evaluated student performance and provided feedback and assistance to improve musical skills.

### Vocal Tutorial Instructor

08/2019 – Current

**Sheridan College** – Oakville, Ontario

Teach one-on-one vocal sessions working towards establishing a free, healthy, vocal technique in each student while creating individually unique performers. Curricula include:

- Musical Theatre (golden age, contemporary)
- Operetta
- Royal Conservatory Vocalise
- Italian Art Song
- Contemporary Stylisms
- Folk Song
- Audition Preparation
- Song Interpretation

**PREP Vocal Tutorial Instructor**

08/2021 - Current

**Sheridan College** - Oakville, Ontario

Successfully improving vocal efficiency of students seeking to enter musical theatre program at Sheridan College.

- Basic Vocal Technique (Bel Canto)
- Contemporary
- Golden Age
- Folk Song
- Ear Training

**Private Vocal Instructor**

06/2002 - Current

**Personal Studio** - Stratford and Toronto, Ontario

Teach private one-on-one voice lessons concentrating on basic vocal technique and various styles of singing.

Effectively preparing students for:

- Careers in the Arts
- Theatre Auditions
- College Auditions
- Performance Practice

**Singer/Actor/Director**

05/1990 - Current

**Self-Employed** - Worldwide

Perform in opera, theatre, cabaret, concert, TV and film throughout North America for over thirty years.

Highlights include:

- Chicago Opera Theatre
- Edmonton Opera
- Glimmerglass Opera
- Hawaii Opera Theatre
- New York City Opera Education
- Pacific Opera, Victoria
- Santa Fe Opera
- Tapestry New Opera Works
- Vancouver Opera
- Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra
- National Arts Centre Orchestra
- Toronto Symphony Orchestra
- Windsor Symphony
- Shaw Festival (two years)
- Stratford Festival (eleven years)
- Baz Luhrmann's La Boheme on Broadway
- Jesus Christ Superstar on Broadway
- Ottawa Jazz Orchestra
- Toronto Jazz Festival
- Feature film, The Producers the Musical
- Murdoch Mysteries

**Teacher of Musical Production Content**

09/2021 - 12/2021

**Teaching Stratford Program** - Stratford, Ontario

Taught creative, interactive workshops to elementary, middle, and high school teachers and students concentrating on Stratford Festival of Canada's 2021 season productions.

- African-American Musical Theatre Canon
- Poetry of Langston Hughes and Maya Angelou
- African-American Civil Rights
- Professional Development in Classroom

**Resident Voice Teacher**

06/2013 - 08/2013

**Charlottetown Festival** - Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

Taught private vocal tutorials and group voice classes to emerging artists in Young Company concentrating on vocal technique and theatre repertoire.

**Vocal Coach**

03/2007 - 11/2007

**Stratford Festival** - Stratford, Ontario

Successfully monitored and maintained choral and solo vocal work during rehearsals and performances of the 2007 Stratford Festival production of To Kill a Mockingbird.

- Daily Warm-Ups
- Private Vocal Instruction
- Rehearsals
- Monitored Vocal Health

**Voice Assistantship**

09/1991 - 05/1993

**University of Illinois** - Champaign

Developed curricula and taught basic vocal technique to non-music majors.

**Voice and Opera Assistantship**

02/1990 - 05/1991

**University of Texas** - Austin

Developed curricula and taught voice to graduate theatre majors and undergraduate non-majors.

- Music Theatre
- Opera
- Staged Opera and Theatre Scenes

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**ADDITIONAL STUDIES**

Chautauqua Opera - Apprentice Singer - 1998

Santa Fe Opera - Apprentice Singer - 1993

Glimmerglass Opera - Apprentice Singer - 1991, 1992

Fairbanks Alaska Summer Arts Festival - Opera Studies - 1987

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**MASTERCLASSES**

Opera On the Avalon - 2024

- Side Gigs/Jobs
- Crossover Singing
- Finance in the Music Industry

Wilfrid Laurier University - 2022

- Crossover Singing
- Music Theatre for Opera Singers
- Vocal Technique

In the Wings: Musical Masterclass Series - 2021

- Vocal Health for Performers
- Healthy Vocal Technique

The Latour Voice Studios, LLC (Nevada) - 2020

- Opera
- Music Theatre
- Contemporary Pop

California State University, Fresno - 2020

- Art Song
- Opera
- Folk Song

Parry Mansfield Performing Arts School (Colorado) - 2020

- Music Theatre
- Acting for Singers and Dancers

Western University - 2015

- Art Song
- Singing in English

Charlottetown Festival Young Company - 2013

- Communicating With the Voice
- Contemporary Musical Theatre
- Golden Age
- Opera

California State University, Fresno - 2010

- Art Song
- Opera
- Musical Theatre
- Career Planning

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## ADJUDICATION

Ontario Music Festivals Association June - 2021

- Observed 130 junior musical theatre solo, duet, group performances
- Provided constructive feedback in writing
- Placed winners and honourable mentions

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## PERFORMANCE HISTORY

### OPERA:

[The Little Prince](#) - The Businessman - Pacific Opera Victoria (2025)

[HMS Pinafore](#) - Dick Dead-Eye - Vancouver Opera (2022)

[February](#) (workshop) - Coach/Priest/Red - Opera on the Avalon (2022)

[Treemonisha](#) (workshop) - Parson Alltalk - Volcano Theatre (2021)

[RUR A Torrent of Light](#) (workshop) - Dom - Tapestry New Opera Works (2020)

[Dark Star Requiem](#) - Bass - Tapestry New Opera Works (2010)

[The Mikado](#) - Mikado - Drayton Entertainment (2006)

[Rigoletto](#) - Sparafucile, Monterone - Monterey Opera (2002)

[Porgy and Bess](#) (excerpts) - Porgy - Toronto Symphony (2001)

[Beatrice Chancy](#) - Rev. Moses - Edmonton Opera/Citidale Theatre (2001)

[Spirit Garden](#) - Winter - St. Norbert's Art Centre (Winnipeg) (2001)

[Rigoletto](#) - Sparafucile - Tacoma Opera (2000)

[La Cenerentola](#) - Alidoro - New York City Opera Education (2000)

[Elsewhereless](#) - Malcolm - Vancouver New Music (1999)

[Ariadne auf Naxos](#) - Truffaldino - Pacific Opera Victoria (1999)

[Amahl and the Night Visitors](#) - King Balthazar - Brott Music Festival - (1999)

[Beatrice Chancy](#) (premiere) - Rev. Moses - Queen of Puddings Theatre (1998 & 1999)

[La Traviata](#) - Dottore Granville - Mississauga Opera (1998)

[The Barber of Seville](#) - Basilio - Monterey Opera Association (1998)

[Werther](#) - Bailiff - Pacific Opera Victoria (1998)

Elsewhereless - Malcolm - National Arts Centre (1998)  
Elsewhereless (premiere) - Malcolm - Tapestry New Opera Works (1998)  
Madame Butterfly - Bonze - Ash-Lawn Highland Festival (1997)  
Tosca - Sciarrone - Pacific Opera Victoria (1997)  
L'Italiana in Algeri - Ali - Ash-Lawn Highland Festival (1997)  
Tosca - Angelotti - Hawaii Opera Theatre (1997)  
L'Italiana in Algeri - Ali - Hawaii Opera Theatre (1997)  
Carmen - Zuniga - London Symphony (1997)  
Carmen - Zuniga - Pacific Opera Victoria (1996)  
Così fan tutte (young artist performance) - Alfonso - Chautauqua Opera (1995)  
Falstaff - Pistola - Chautauqua Opera (1995)  
Four Saints in Three Acts - Compere - Chicago Opera Theatre (1993)  
The Protagonist - Innkeeper (us) - Santa Fe Opera (1993)  
Rigoletto - Sparafucile - Illinois Opera Theatre (1992)  
The Magic Flute - Armed Man, Speaker - Glimmerglass Opera (1992)  
Orpheus in the Underworld - Jupiter - Illinois Opera Theatre (1992)  
La Bohème - Colline - Illinois Opera Theatre - (1992)  
The Barber of Seville (highlights) - Basilio - Danville Symphony (1992)  
The Mikado - Mikado (us) - Glimmerglass Opera (1991)  
Amahl and the Night Visitors - King Balthazar - Natchez Opera (1991)  
Le Rossignol - Emperor of Japan - Illinois Opera Theatre (1991)  
Giulio Cesare - Giulio Cesare - University of Texas Opera Theatre (1991)  
Tosca - Angelotti/Sergeant of the Guard - Shreveport Opera (1990)  
Showboat - Joe - Irving Light Opera (1990)

**CONCERT/ORATORIO:**

Austin Civic Chorus, Texas  
Austin Sinfonietta, Texas  
Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra  
Carmel Woman's Club, California  
Chautauqua Symphony  
Cornwall Concert Series (solo concert)  
Curran Theatre, San Francisco  
Danville Symphony, Illinois  
Elora Festival  
Fairbanks Alaska Summer Arts Festival Orchestra  
Fresno Philharmonic Orchestra, California (as a clarinet player)  
Golden Bough, California (Solo Concert)  
Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra  
Illinois Oratorio Society  
Impressions in Jazz Orchestra, Ottawa  
Innerchamber, Stratford (solo concert)  
Jazz Bistro, Toronto (Solo Concert)  
Koerner Hall  
London Symphonia  
Luminato Festival  
Metropolitan Room, NYC (Solo Concert)  
Monterey Bay Symphony, California  
National Arts Centre Orchestra  
National Arts Centre Fourth Stage (Solo Concert)  
North York Symphony  
Ottawa Jazz Orchestra  
Performing Arts Lakefield, Ontario (Solo Concert)  
Primavera Concerts Series, Ontario (solo concert)  
Roy Thompson Hall  
Stratford Summer Music (Solo Concert)  
Toronto Jazz Festival (Solo Concert)  
Toronto Symphony Orchestra  
Vermillion Festival Chorus, Indiana

Victoria Symphony  
Windsor Symphony

**NEW YORK THEATRE:**

Jesus Christ Superstar - Caiaphas - Neil Simon Theatre (2012)  
Of Thee I Sing - Ensemble - Encores! City Center (2006)  
Kismet - Ensemble - Encores! City Center (2006)  
Baz Luhrmann's La Boheme - Ensemble - Broadway Theatre (2002-2003)  
La Cenerentola - Alidoro - New York City Opera Education (2000)

**SHAW FESTIVAL:**

Sweeney Todd - Judge Turpin (2016)  
Alice in Wonderland - Bill the Lizard (2016)  
Pal Joey - Mike, Earnest (2004)  
Floyd Collins - Dr. Hazlett, Reporter (2004)  
Bloomer Girl (reading) - Pompey (2004)

**STRATFORD FESTIVAL**

Cymbeline - Jupiter  
Wendy and Peter Pan - Doc Giles, Crocodile, Skylights (2024)  
Frankenstein - The Creature (2023)  
Richard II - Abott of Westminster (2023)  
Why We Tell the Story - Featured Performer/Writer/Director (2021)  
Wendy and Peter Pan - Crocodile, Skylights, Dr. Giles (2020) POSTPONED  
Frankenstein - The Creature (2020) POSTPONED  
Little Shop of Horrors - Audrey II (us)(2019)  
Billy Elliot - Pit Supervisor (2019)  
The Music Man - Olin Britt (2018)  
HMS Pinafore - Bill Bobstay, Dick Deadeye (us) (2017)  
Guys and Dolls - Rusty Charlie (2017)  
Carousel - Heavenly Friend - (2015)  
Sound of Music - Ensemble - (2015)  
Crazy for You - Mingo (2014)  
Man of La Mancha - Captain, Governor (us) (2014)  
Jesus Christ Superstar - Caiaphas (2011)  
Camelot - Knight Soloist- (2011)  
Moby Dick - Queequeg (2008)  
The Music Man - Olin Britt - (2008)  
To Kill a Mockingbird - Tom (us) (2007)  
My One and Only - Rev. J.D. Montgomery (2007)

**REGIONAL THEATRE:**

Natasha Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812 - Andrey, Old Prince Bolkonsky - Crow's Theatre/Musical Stage Company (2023-2024)  
Ragtime - Coalhouse (standby) - Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra (2022)  
Follies - Ben Stone - Koerner Hall (2021)  
So, How's it Been? - Singer - Here For Now Theatre, Stratford (2021)  
Jack and the Beanstalk: Panto - King Buttercup - Drayton Entertainment (2018)  
Dracula: A Chamber Musical - Van Helsing - Innerchamber (2017)  
The Wizard of Oz - Tinman - The Grand Theatre (2016)  
Aladdin: Panto - Sultan - Drayton Entertainment (2015)  
The Little Mermaid - King Triton - Drayton Entertainment (2014)  
Evangeline (world premiere) - Clairborne - Charlottetown Festival (2013)  
Amahl and the Night Visitors - King Balthazar - No Strings Theatre (2013)  
Jesus Christ Superstar - Caiaphas - La Jolla Playhouse (2011)  
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat - Judah - Stage West (2010)  
Guys and Dolls - Ensemble - National Arts Centre Orchestra (2010)

[Beauty and the Beast](#) - Beast/Prince - Western Canadian (2007)  
[Beauty and the Beast](#) - Beast/Prince - The Grand Theatre (2006)  
[Annie Get Your Gun](#) - Ensemble - Massey Hall (2005)  
[Showboat](#) - Ensemble - Livent (1993-1995)

#### **FILM/TV/DIGITAL:**

[Queen Tut](#) - Large Principal - Fae Pictures (2022)  
[Good Sam](#) - Recurring Principal - CBS (2022)  
[Backstage Pass](#) - Singer - Drayton Entertainment Web Series (2021)  
[Why We Tell the Story](#) - Singer/Director - Stratfest@home (2021)  
[Murdoch Mysteries](#) - Principal - CBC (2021)  
[The Prodigal: the musical](#) - Aven the Friend (VOX) - Glorious Films (2020)  
[Up Close and Musical :Voice of a Preacher's Son](#) - Singer/Curator - stratfest@home (2020)  
[Mayday](#) - Actor - Discovery Channel (2020)  
[Departure](#) - Principal - Global (2020)  
[The Producers](#) - Featured Accountant/Soloist - Universal Pictures (2005)  
[A Road to Elsewhere](#) - Principal - Cohen Siblings Inc./ Rob Cohen (1999)  
[Beatrice Chancey](#) - Rev. Moses - BRAVO (1999)

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### **RECORDINGS**

[Salute for Service: Prayer for Victory](#) - Elise Letourneau Music - 2019  
[Summertime](#) - Alexis Gordon - Independent - 2018  
[Dark Star Requiem](#) - Centredics/Tapestry Opera - 2017  
[Carousel](#) - Stratford Festival - 2015  
[Crazy for You](#) - Stratford Festival - 2014  
[Evangeline](#) - Charlottown Festival - 2014  
[Marcus Nance - The Voice Next Door](#) - Independent - 2010  
[Baz Luhrmann's La Boheme](#) - Universal Music Colombia - 2002  
[Songs from Ragtime](#) - RCA Victor/Livent Music/BMG - 1995  
[Showboat](#) - Livent Music - 1993

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### **AWARDS**

My Entertainment World's Critics' Pick Award for Performer of the Year - 2023  
Juno Award Nominee: Classical Album of the Year for Tapestry Opera's [Dark Star Requiem](#) - 2017  
My Theatre Award Nominee: Outstanding Performance for Judge Turpin in Shaw's [Sweeney Todd](#) - 2016  
Distinguished Alumni of Fresno State University - 2010  
Dora Award Nominee: Outstanding Male Performer for Malcolm in Tapestry Opera's [Elsewhereless](#) - 1999  
Metropolitan Opera National Council Regional Award Winner - Washington - 1996  
Marguerite McCammon Voice Competition Finalist (Dallas,TX) - 1995  
National Opera Association third place Winner - 1994  
Metropolitan Opera National Council District Award Winner - Illinois - 1993  
Metropolitan Opera National Council District Award Winner - California - 1988

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### **SELECTED REVIEWS**

"[Marcus] Nance, however, is the star here. His performance is fabulous, otherworldly yet revealing the dawning humanity of the creature as he finds first his body and then society. He is hard to look at, particularly in

early scenes, yet he always amplifies the pathos of the creature's predicament without descending into caricature. Forget all memories of the green guy with the bolts in his head."

- The Globe and Mail

"...booms with a thrillingly powerful bass-baritone."

- New York Times

"His voice, a deep flexible instrument that can rumble in his chest or soar above an audience, literally speaks for itself. And it seems to adapt as easily to an opera house, as to a microphone."

-The Toronto Star

"Marcus Nance gives the production's standout performance as the corrupt Judge Turpin: with his stunning singing voice and commanding physical presence, he is horribly convincing as a man who aborts justice and tramples morality..."

-The Toronto Star

"Marcus Nance has a set of pipes that can fill a stadium. His vocal performance as Judge Turpin is wonderful and sends shivers down your spine. Every time he enters the stage, the audience is hooked, and he keeps their attention with ease."

- New York Theatre Guide

"Marcus Nance, as familiar from opera as musicals, uses his huge baritone to make Judge Turpin a terrifying and troubled character."

- Stagedoor

"Mr. Nance's operatically trained bass voice was forceful and he was given the opportunity to further command the stage during his often cut number of self flagellation, "Johanna." Nance's inner turmoil was palpable and given depth to yet another demented mind in this dark tale of Sweeney Todd."

- Broadwayworld

"... that conniving cabal is led by Marcus Nance, a Metropolitan Opera (Regional) National Council winner whose bass voice resonates with silky menace. You can hear every nuance..."

- New York Post-

"As the scheming priest Caiaphas, Marcus Nance rattles the house with his rumbling bass-baritone."

- Chicago Tribune

"Marcus Nance has one of the most resounding bass baritone voices heard in some time."

- San Diego Examiner

"As the high priest Caiaphas, Marcus Nance has a bass that flows like melted butter."

- Backstage New York

"Fans of cabaret, jazz or musical theatre have hit the motherlode here; Nance's deep bass brings a unique flavour to these oft-heard classics. With only piano accompaniment and his remarkable voice, Nance transports you to an elegant evening of cabaret and sophistication."

- FAB Magazine



"Mr. Nance soulfully sings each number with a clear understanding of the song's messages that still resonates within my very being even as I sit here writing this commentary an hour later."

- onstageblog

"...and bass-baritone Marcus Nance's mellifluous voice lent the proper gravitas to anchor the quartet."

- la scena musicale

"Marcus Nance, both fearsome and endearing."

- The National Post

"As I witness [various cast members] and Marcus Nance- the assassin, Sparafucile throw out a hand as he brings forth his sonorous, earthquake of a voice, I try to count the times in my life that I have been aware of standing in the presence of greatness."

- Tacoma Reporter (Washington)

"It is rare to hear a voice like Marcus Nance's... deep as the ocean one moment, and soaring with pure, emotional height the next. It is gorgeously refreshing, dazzlingly impressive and makes me long for the days when such lush voices were not such an anomaly on Broadway."

- twisitheatreblogger.com

"It's Nance himself who shines the brightest, showing off his stunning range as he beautifully rumbles through "Ol' Man River" and sends "Wheels of a Dream" soaring."

- My Entertainment World

"Marcus Nance, well known for both musicals and opera, is an inspired choice as the Tinman. His deep, rounded tone is perfect for a man who basically has a huge echo chamber for a chest."

- Stagedoor

"Marcus Nance is an authoritative Triton with his resonant bass-baritone in an athlete's body. It is largely due to his fine acting that Triton's complete change in point of view comes across as convincing."

- Stagedoor

"Marcus Nance practically carries the production with a rich powerful bass tone and a genuinely moving expression..."

- Musicworks Magazine

"In the hands of Toronto bass-baritone Marcus Nance, Malcolm emerges as the one memorable character in the show. Nance's deep resonant voice gives the character a commanding presence but his performance also reveals the pain and vulnerability of a man stuck in limbo."

- The Globe and Mail

"An accomplished cast... Nance was a sympathetic Malcolm."

- Opera News

"Bass Marcus Nance is utterly convincing as Malcolm, both in his youthful innocence and his subsequent disillusionment."

- Opera Now (UK)

"To the pleasure of many basso Marcus Nance set the highest standards of the entire performance, vocally and theatrically."

- The Coast Weekly (Monterey, CA)

"... glorious voices and heartfelt performances carry [Beatrice Chancy]. Marcus Nance as the black-coated charismatic preacher Moses, is equal parts grace and fire."

- The Globe and Mail

"Marcus Nance blew the audience away. His voice reflected the beast's torture and torment...Nance's powerful acting likely inspired the most emotion from the audience..."

- The Gazette (London, Ontario)

"Bass- baritone Marcus Nance was a resounding Ali, taking charge of his scenes... He has a solid vocal technique and a strong stage presence, which make him a memorable performer."

- The Charlottesville Daily Progress (Virginia)

"While bass-baritones often have trouble reaching the back of the hall with their low notes, Marcus Nance's Zuniga filled the Royal with delightful rumbling."

- Monday Magazine (Victoria, British Columbia)

"Pistola was solidly sung and amusingly acted by Marcus Nance. He added considerably to the fun."

- The Chautauquan Daily (New York)

"Marcus Nance has an unusual knack for projecting his magnetic personality into his character. He was extremely effective in complementing his voice with such a pleasant personality as the voice sparkled with an infectious grace."

- The Chicago Defender

"Marcus Nance sang clearly and moved elegantly as the heavenly host."

- Opera News

"What the audience gave it's greatest ovation to was a controlled and heartfelt performance by Nance... he made you feel the deep sadness and resilience in the music and lyrics with his trained bass baritone beautifully caressing the melody..."

- All About Jazz

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## **ASSOCIATIONS**

AEA, CAEA, ACTRA, AGMA, NATS