

**Darren K. Woods, General Director  
Fort Worth Opera**

Darren K. Woods was appointed General Director of the Fort Worth Opera in July of 2001. Under his leadership, the Fort Worth Opera has increased subscription and donor bases and has received rave reviews for production quality. In May of 2007 Fort Worth Opera changed its format to a spring festival season and celebrated its first commissioned work: *Frau Margot* by Thomas Pasatieri, with a libretto by Frank Corsaro. In four short years, the Fort Worth Opera Festival has been hailed as one of the best in the country (Scott Cantrell, *Opera News*) and presented its second world premiere in the 2010 season: Jorge Martin's *Before Night Falls*. Expanding on Mr. Woods' dedication to young artists, the Fort Worth Opera Studio was founded in the 2002-2003 season with four members who participated in main stage productions, performed for more than 100,000 children and received coaching and lessons from visiting guest artists.

Prior to his appointment in Fort Worth, he was the General Director of the Shreveport Opera in Louisiana. While in Shreveport, Mr. Woods founded *Shreveport Opera Express*, or *SOX*, a touring, arts in education program that involved school children working with professional artists in the schools.

Darren K. Woods was appointed General Director of the Seagle Music Colony in the summer of 1996 and continues as Artistic Director today. Since that time, the Colony has expanded from 19 young artists a faculty of seven and two productions to 32 artists selected from over one thousand applicants, six productions and a faculty of seventeen. The Colony recently expanded to include the new Frank and Dorothy Shames rehearsal studio and new construction is continuing on the campus today. The caliber of young artists at the Colony continues to rival any other program in the World with recent debuts of our artists at the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera, Santa Fe Opera and even on Broadway.

Mr. Woods is a frequent vocal competition judge. In recent seasons, he served as a panel judge for the Richard Tucker Foundation, the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, the Lieber Competition, the Denver Opera Guild Competition, the Dallas Opera Guild Competition and the Marguerite McCammon Competition.

Mr. Woods performed as a professional operatic tenor for twenty years prior to beginning his management positions in such venues as: The New York City Opera, Carnegie Hall, the Washington Opera, L'Opera Madrid, Opera Trieste, Seattle Opera, the Dallas Opera, Baltimore Opera, the Santa Fe Opera and many others.