

Praised for his “big voice” and commanding stage presence, Skyler Schlenker is completing a Performers Diploma from the Jacobs School at Indiana University and has recently been seen as an emerging artist at Central City Opera, Opera Naples, and the Aspen Music Festival and School. He is an artist with an exceptional story from football to professional opera singing. Recently, he was seen as Count Pâris in *Roméo et Julliette* with Central City Opera, where he gathered praise for his performances and covered the leading man of Fred Graham in Cole Porter’s *Kiss Me Kate*. He has also played several lead roles with Opera Naples, including Older Jim Thompson in *Glory Denied*, *The Pirate King*, and Ozzie in *On The Town*. In March 2023, he appeared as the father of Anne Frank in the world premiere of *Anne Frank*, a new opera by Pulitzer Prize winning composer Shulamit Ran with IU opera theater. He has performed leading roles from repertoire ranging from the contemporary, to Verdi and Puccini, and Sondheim and Cole Porter.

Skyler was raised in the Upper Valley of New Hampshire and Vermont. He began studying music at 25 after playing NCAA football, competing in elite athletics in high school, and studying drama and psychology at Ithaca college. Before studying voice, he became a young artist at the Brevard Music Center’s Janiec Opera Company, and soon after played supporting and leading roles at the Aspen Music Festival and School as an opera fellow. Early in his development he performed the role of Jesus in Mark Adamo’s *The Gospel of Mary Magdalene*, with composer Mark Adamo directing, and the title role in *Sweeney Todd*, and has since sung Marcello and Ford in the Jacobs School of Music’s productions of *La bohème* and *Falstaff* in addition to many other roles in repertoire ranging from musical theater to grand opera, and contemporary opera.

Skyler holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Colorado, Boulder.