

BASS-BARITONE DAVID PITTSINGER
TO ASSUME THE ROLE OF EMILE deBECQUE
IN LINCOLN CENTER THEATER'S
TONY AWARD WINNING PRODUCTION OF
Rodgers & Hammerstein's SOUTH PACIFIC
DIRECTED BY BARTLETT SHER

From TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2008 TO SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2009
and from TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2009 TO SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2009

AT THE VIVIAN BEAUMONT THEATER

Bass-Baritone David Pittsinger will assume the role of Emile de Becque in Lincoln Center Theater's Tony Award winning production of *Rodgers & Hammerstein's SOUTH PACIFIC*, at the Vivian Beaumont Theater, during two upcoming periods when the production's current Emile de Becque, baritone Paulo Szot, leaves the musical to honor two previously scheduled opera commitments.

Mr. Pittsinger will make his debut as the French plantation owner on Tuesday, December 2 for an eight week engagement through Sunday, January 25th, while Mr. Szot appears in a production of *The Merry Widow* for Opera Marseille. Mr. Szot will then return to *SOUTH PACIFIC* on Tuesday, January 27 for six weeks through Sunday, March 8. after which he will leave to star in a production of *Carmen* for Opera Toulouse. During this five week period, Mr. Pittsinger will return to the role of Emile de Becque from Tuesday, March 12 through Sunday, April 12, with Mr. Szot returning to the show on Tuesday, April 15.

David Pittsinger made his Metropolitan Opera debut as Truelove in *The Rake's Progress* conducted by James Levine. He went on to appear in the MET productions of *Don Carlo*, *La Boheme*, *Die Zauberflote* and *Giulio Cesare*. Later this season he will also appear in the New York City Opera's concert performance of *Antony and Cleopatra* at Carnegie Hall. His other operatic credits include the role of Zoroastro in Handel's *Orlando* at both Glimmerglass Opera and New York City Opera and numerous appearances with leading opera companies throughout the United States, South America and Europe. His numerous orchestral credits include concert appearances with the Los Angeles Opera, National Symphony Orchestra, Houston Symphony, Baltimore Symphony and the Vienna Philharmonic. A Connecticut native, he can be heard on the Grammy Award-winning Virgin Classics record of Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah* and in *La Calisto* by Cavalli on the Harmonia Mundi label.

Directed by Barlett Sher, *Rodgers & Hammerstein's SOUTH PACIFIC*, which also stars Kelli O'Hara as Ensign Nellie Forbush, is the winner of 7 2008 Tony Awards including Best Musical Revival. Tickets are available at the Vivian Beaumont Theater box office (150 W 65 Street), at telecharge.com or by visiting www.lct.org.