Lawrence Bakst, tenor, lived and sang regularly for 27 years in Germany. He performed a wide variety of repertoire in over sixty theaters, from small to large, and maintained relationships with several over decades. He worked as a Fest (salaried) singer at the beginning of his career in the late 80's/early 90's, and was freelance after that until 2013, rehearsing and singing productions which often extended over two Seasons, as well as hundreds of 'jump-ins' at the last minute.

His work in opera and concert in Germany led to engagements and tours all over Europe and around the world, including Austria, Spain, Italy, France, Holland, Ireland, Greece, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Brazil, Colombia and Japan.

While his repertoire first centered on Verdi, Puccini and Verismo roles, thanks to his long career in German theaters he was also able to sing roles including Tamino, Nadir, Massenet's Des Grieux, and then grow into more dramatic roles including many years singing Florestan, Siegfried and Tannhäuser.

All the while he and his wife, Kathryn Wright (who also worked in opera) were able to have a family life, raising two children with access to healthcare, good public schools and transportation in the five different cities where they lived.

Mr. Bakst now lives in Athens, GA, where Kathryn is head vocal coach at the University of Georgia's Opera Department. He teaches voice at nearby Truett-McConnel University, and still sings opera and concert, including an upcoming Lieder tour in Germany. Mr. Bakst has also published a newly rediscovered Lieder cycle by the mid-nineteenth century woman composer Martha von Sabinin (Furore Verlag, 2017), as well as extensively reviewed opera performances for the Italian website, <u>GBOpera.it</u>, under the pseudonym Lorenzo Basso.