

Anthony Kearns, Tenor

Career Overview & Opera Credits

Besides performing two solo tours annually coast to coast in America's Performing Arts Centers and venues across the USA, **Anthony Kearns** also performs at many prestigious and charity events as possible each year. You will find a good sampling below; **Anthony's** belief in ***Giving Back*** is evident therein.

As an original member of the popular singing group **The Irish Tenors**, **Anthony** has performed with literally hundreds of fine orchestras across the U.S. and around the world while touring with **The Irish Tenors**. The group has performed three concert tours each year since 1999, performing in the world's most prestigious venues such as Madison Square Garden, The Hollywood Bowl, Carnegie Hall, The Sydney [Australia] Opera House, the National Concert Halls of Ireland, and for a very special performance on Ellis Island. **The Irish Tenors** are among the top money-makers for PBS, sharing the ranks with the likes of The Three Tenors (Pavarotti, Domingo, Carreras) and Andrea Bocelli. The Irish Tenors also had their own television show on Ireland's RTE.



Anthony Kearns
Tenor

Anthony also performs at home in Ireland on several occasions each year, and sings in as many operas as he can fit into his schedule. His opera credits are listed at the bottom of this document.

June, 2004 Anthony Kearns performed for President Reagan's funeral in Washington DC.

March 25, 2006 Kearns sang with **The Chicagoland Pops Orchestra** under the baton of Arnie Roth at the Rosemont Theatre, sharing the bill with Linda Ronstadt.

November, 2006 Anthony was invited to participate at **Dublin's National Concert Hall's Silver Jubilee** where only Ireland's biggest, brightest, and best-loved stars were invited to entertain. The prestigious evening resulted in a popular DVD/CD which features these entertainers. Said Ryan Tubridy, the announcer of the event, "The mantle of John McCormack's success surely rests comfortably on the shoulders of **Anthony Kearns**."

"Ireland in Dubai" January 26, 2008 Many of Ireland's greatest performers were invited to Dubai for a week-long Irish Festival. **The Dubai Philharmonic Orchestra** presented a night of Irish music, song and dance on January 26, 2008. The evening featured distinguished Irish composer Mícheál O' Súilleabháin and world famous Irish tenor **Anthony Kearns** of **The Irish Tenors**.

February 2008 Anthony Kearns was involved in the video production ***John McCormack: The People's Tenor***. Besides being interviewed for the DVD, **Kearns** was asked to read McCormack's personal letters in the production.

May 19, 2009 Anthony was invited to participate in ***Flirtation: A homage to the collaboration of John McCormack and Kriz Kreisler*** at **Dublin's National Concert Hall**. **Anthony** performed many of John Count McCormack's most-loved music.

June 28, 2009 Kearns performed at a tribute to the late John F. Kennedy. The concert took place in **New Ross, County Wexford, Ireland**. It was a very prestigious event attended by ambassadors and leading members of government. The Honorable Jean Kennedy Smith, former U.S. Ambassador to Ireland and sister of the late President Kennedy, was also in attendance and commented, "I have never heard a better Irish Tenor voice."

Himself a Wexford man, **Anthony** was honored to sing for President Kennedy; the Kennedy family's roots are in County Wexford, as well.

December 17, 2009 **Anthony** accepted an invitation to perform at a prestigious holiday event held at **The Capitol Hill Club in the Eisenhower Lounge**, proceeds of which went to the schools of the Consortium of Catholic Charities. Anthony was introduced by The Honorable Michael Collins, Ireland's Ambassador to the U.S. saying: "**Anthony Kearns**, Ireland's foremost tenor, is a great ambassador for Ireland."

January, 2010 **Anthony** was invited to perform at two events celebrating the **inauguration of Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell**: The Benefactor's Gala at the historic Jefferson Hotel in Richmond, VA on 1/15, and the Prayer Breakfast on 1/16. The gala benefited the Salvation Army.

February 8, 2010 **Kearns** starred in a **PBS Special called Hallelujah Broadway** taped in Prague with the Prague Filmharmonic Orchestra. This production went on to show coast to coast in the U.S. and Ireland later that same year. Also in the production were opera singers Rodrick Dixon and Alfreda Burke.

May 31, 2010 **Anthony** sang *God Bless America* during the **Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C.** Then promptly at 3:00 PM, the parade came to a complete halt to commemorate the National Moment of Remembrance; **Anthony** sang *Amazing Grace* at that special moment.

June 25, 2010 **Anthony** opened the **Redlands Bowl** summer season singing a program with The San Bernardino Symphony under the baton of Frank Paul Fetta. Anthony sang selections from stage, movies and operas. His renditions of *La Donna E Mobile*, *The Impossible Dream*, *Dein ist Mein Ganzes Herz*, *With a Song in My Heart*, and *Bring Him Home* brought the crowd to its feet.

September 13, 2010 **Anthony Kearns**, with **The Irish Tenors**, were invited to perform at the **2010 Liberty Medal Ceremony**, recognizing former British Prime Minister Tony Blair. Former U.S. President Bill Clinton praised Blair for his work for peace in Northern Ireland, and as a special envoy in the Middle East peace process. Mr. Blair gave the £64,000 prize money to two of his charities: his faith foundation and African Governance Initiative.

September 2010 through October 2012 **Anthony Kearns** performed 10 concerts coast to coast in the U.S. for the Wexford Institute to raise awareness for Autism and Victims of Childhood Trauma. As a result of these concerts, Wexford Institute was able to put an entire Autism curriculum and resources, in two languages, on-line free of charge for educators and those affected by Autism. These resources have been accessed by educators in 17 countries to date.

December 2010 and October 2011 and November 2012 **Kearns** was invited to entertain at the New Zealand Embassy on three occasions to benefit the One Campaign, the USO's Wounded Warrior and Enduring Care programs, and in tribute to the "U.S. Military, Their Families, and Their Legacy." In December 2010, Anthony sang a moving rendition of *Ave Maria* dedicated to the 29 miners tragically killed in New Zealand; in October 2011 he sang a beautiful Maori love song *Pokarekare Ana* in Maori. He dedicated it to the "All Blacks," the New Zealand rugby team who had taken the World Cup.

June 16, 2011 **Anthony** was invited to sing for **President Reagan's Centennial Celebration** in New Orleans at the **Republican Leadership Conference**. **Kearns** was happy to return "to New Orleans to perform at this celebratory occasion of a great U.S. President of Irish heritage." It was particularly fitting, as **he had performed during the late President Reagan's funeral in 2004**.

August 6, 2011 **Anthony** sang with the **Cincinnati Pops** in the production *Hallelujah Broadway*.

September 17, 2011 **Kearns** and *Hallelujah Broadway* performed with the **Chicago Symphony**.

March 27, 2012 **Anthony Kearns** was invited to sing at the **John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum** in the first ever event jointly sponsored by the Library and UMass Boston to celebrate the late President's Irish

ancestry. It was a prestigious event and a full house. **Anthony** is the first singer ever to be invited to perform at a John F. Kennedy Library Forum; it was an extremely well-received, full-house event. The Kennedy family hails from the County of Wexford in Ireland where Anthony was born, and he was particularly honored to dedicate **The Boys of Wexford** to John F. Kennedy and **Red is the Rose** to “the matriarch of the Kennedy Clan-Rose Kennedy” that evening. In **June of 2014**, **Anthony** was at President Kennedy's graveside to sing as the eternal flame began its journey to Ireland to commemorate the 50th anniversary of JFK's visit to Ireland.

May 19, 2012 **Kearns** was invited to **Pimlico** to sing at the **137th Preakness** during their pre-race Special Military Tribute. “This truly will be a special moment for me. I have a fondness for horses which goes back to my childhood,” said **Kearns**, who hails from Wexford, Ireland, home of famed Irish horse trainer Aidan O’Brien, and many great horse breeders, trainers and jockeys, where he “gained an appreciation of horses and the horse industry.”

January, 2013 **Anthony** was involved in the U.S. Inaugural weekend celebrations. He was invited by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Dempsey (who sang a number with **Kearns**) to perform at a brunch for Medal of Honor recipients; performed at the inaugural ball hosted by Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley; and was then invited to attend the actual swearing-in ceremony as an honored VIP guest. Commented **Kearns**, “It was a great experience to be involved in the Inaugural events; I was honored to be there.”

March 19, 2013 At the invitation of Speaker of the House John Boehner **Anthony Kearns** performed for **U.S. President Obama and Prime Minister Kenny of Ireland** at the Capitol in Washington DC, during the annual **Friends of Ireland Luncheon**. Of his performance at the Capitol, **Kearns** commented: "What a special time for me, to have the honor to sing for President Obama and Ireland's Taoiseach, Prime Minister Kenny at one event. It was both humbling and thrilling; I was proud to present the music of Ireland to that distinguished audience."

May, 2014 **Kearns** was invited to sing **The Lord's Prayer** to close the annual PBS Memorial Day Concert in Washington DC. **Anthony** continues his work for the benefit of U.S. Troops and their families.

November 5, 2014 **Anthony Kearns** agreed to serve as **Wells for Life National Ambassador**, assisting to bring fresh water to the Ugandan people. **February, 2015** found **The Anthony Kearns 9/11 Memorial Well** being dedicated in Uganda as a result of his work as **Wells For Life National Ambassador**, and is a continuation of his work on behalf of 9/11 victims and their families since that terrible tragedy.

Down through the years, **Anthony** has been asked to sing for several sporting events including:

the **Los Angeles Angels**, **Boston Red Sox**, and the **Washington Redskins**.

QUOTES

Voices like this don't come along very often. It's a voice-of-the-century voice.

...Steffanie Pearce, Opera Naples Founder and Artistic Director, and Founder of Gulf Coast Opera.

Kearns is a tenor with an easy manner and real vocal appeal.

...The Irish Times

Anthony Kearns is a superb singer; a confident, compelling performer.

...The Nashville Scene

***Anthony's voice is lovely from top range to bottom.
He connects thoroughly with both the music and the audience.***

...The Palm Beach Post

OPERA CREDITS TO DATE

Early Opera Years **Anthony Kearns** performed in several opera productions in Ireland as a chorus member which lead to roles as: **Macduff** in Verdi's *Macbeth* and **Alfredo** in Verdi's *La Traviata*. **Anthony** has repeatedly sung lead tenor in *The Irish Ring*, a production encompassing three Irish operas, and brought it to the U.S. in September, 2002; among other venues, it was performed at Carnegie Hall. That same year, he was invited to sing the role of **Fenton** in an Italian production of Verdi's *Falstaff* in Tuscany.

2005 — 2007 Becoming a popular presence in Ireland's music scene, spring of 2005 found **Anthony** singing Rinuccio in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, about which Hugh Canning [*Irish Times*] wrote: "**Anthony Kearns** suggested huge promise."

In April, 2006 **Kearns** sang the title role in Charles Gounod's *Faust*, which was nominated for best production in The Irish Times Theatre Awards. Both of these appearances were for Opera Ireland. Of **Anthony's Faust**, the *Irish Times* is quoted: "**Kearns** got around the notes of *Faust* quite well. His subtle tonal shading and judicious use of well-supported head voice complements an exciting top register." In June of 2007, the Royal Dublin Society invited **Anthony** to sing lead tenor [**Hardress Cregan**] in the first complete performance since the early 20th century of Benedict's *The Lily of Killarney*.

2010 — 2011 **Anthony** performed with Opera Naples [FL] in February of 2010 singing **Romeo/Tony** in their production of *Romeo & Juliet: Then and Now* (a partially staged production of *Romeo & Juliet* and *West Side Story*.) Said Steffanie Pearce, Opera Naples Founder & Artistic Director: "**Anthony** has incredible vocal technique. His high notes are thrilling and virile."

The Dun Laoghaire/Rathburn Glashule Opera Company's 2010 production of Bizet's *Carmen*, starred **Anthony** as **Don José**. The *Irish Times* is quoted: "**Anthony Kearns** proved a top-notch **Don José**, rising to each decisive moment with quality to spare."

In January, 2011 **Anthony** returned to Naples in his official U.S. full-scale grand opera debut singing **Edgardo** in Gaetano Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*. The Naples News is quoted: "**Anthony Kearns**, as her secret betrothed, **Edgardo**, has the vocal power in his emotive tenor voice to fill the entire Miromar atrium. But he showed touch-tuning for dynamics as well, creating tender duet moments with as much clarity as his hall-filling farewell."

Kearns performed **Don Ottavio** in a Lismore [Ireland] Opera production of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* in June of 2011, where influential members of Ireland's opera community proclaimed his performance stunning. The British magazine, *Opera Now*, is quoted: "**Anthony Kearns's** beautifully spun Il mio tesoro was a moment of still beauty in the middle of turmoil."

During the summer of 2011, **Anthony** sang the role of **Alfred** in the Emerald City Opera Company production of the comic opera by Joann Strauss, Jr., *Die Fledermaus*, in Steamboat Springs, CO. The opera company's release stated: "**Kearns'** excellent comedic timing and on-stage charm and passion filled the opera house with laughter, creating a post-performance buzz ... The operetta began with a stunning grand entrance by **Kearns.**"

2012 And Beyond On February 24 and 26, 2012, **Anthony** returned to Opera Naples to reprise his title role of *Faust*. The typical story of an elderly man selling his soul to the devil for another shot at youth and love, was expertly produced by Opera Naples. **Kearns** was praised for executing opera's most carefully crafted High C. Cello Bennett [Bennett Artists] noted: "**Kearns** sang with melting lyricism in the aria and love duets, adding dramatic intensity as required by the story and the score, topping his impressive performance off with endless

high notes of ravishing beauty.” Said the ***Naples News***: “**Kearns** continues to prove he can sing anything lyrically -- and in French, too. As the younger ***Faust*** he is a vocal and visual maiden magnet.” Steffanie Pearce, Opera Naples Founder and Artistic Director commented: “Voices like this don’t come along very often. It is a voice-of-the century voice.

April 2015 Kearns reprised his lead tenor role in ***The Irish Ring***, at Dublin's National Concert Hall.