Praised for his “**chilling refinement in bearing and voice**” (*Opera Wire*), Thandolwethu Mamba has been described as having a “**magnificent voice**” and “**possessing an extraordinary capacity for timbral flexibility, which he exploits with a level of artistic maturity and musical tact**” (*Classical Voice of North Carolina*)*.* Mr. Mamba is an upcoming baritone who continues to establish himself on opera and concert stages, showcasing his command of diverse styles and repertoire.

Following his Metropolitan Opera debut in the ensemble of **X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X** in November 2023, Thando had another role and house debut as Sonora in ***La Fanciulla del West*** with North Carolina Opera. Other recent roles have included the title roles in ***Le Nozze di Figaro*** and ***Gianni Schicchi,*** Baron Duophol in ***La Traviata****,* Dancaïro in **Carmen**, Don Calogero Sedàra in ***The Leopard*** (a world premiere), Town Magistrate in ***Signor Deluso***, and Max in ***Stone Soup*** with Opera Wilmington, Frost Opera Theater, *Si parla, si canta*, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis and Florida Grand Opera. The rest of his 2022-23 season featured a series of solo recitals in North Carolina and Pennsylvania*.* Performances in ***Tosca***, ***Così fan tutte***, ***Treemonisha****,* and ***Susannah*** amongst other engagements as a Gerdine Young Artist with Opera Theatre of Saint Louis were unfortunately stifled by delays in federal work authorization documents which have since been resolved.

Future engagements include The Guide/Chris in the NYC Premiere of **The Cost of Believing**, a new musical theatre ballet by Paul Brill, The Juneteenth Experience with Hued Songs in Miami, a total of nine role and opera debuts as an Opera Orlando Studio Artist including roles in **Macbeth**, ***Cendrillon***, ***Cavalleria Rusticana***, **Amahl and the Night Visitors**, and others. He is also happy to be returning to Opera Wilmington as the 2025 **Caterina Jarboro Recital** soloist, as well as his alma mater, UWC Dilijan in Armenia as the honored guest performer for the 10th Anniversary Celebration Concert.

As an artist who always seeks to create experiences that will reach a diverse audience, his concert program with pianist David Heid, ***Paths & Journeys****,* debuted in North Carolina in the Fall of 2022 and was described as “**a vibrant and enriching collaboration**” (*CVNC)*. He regularly features music from diverse cultures and languages, including music from Sub-Saharan Africa and his home country, Eswatini, as seen in his performances in the **St Hugh-Steinway Series** 2023 Valentines Concert alongside soprano Elizabeth Caballero, as well as in his capacity as the current Corpus Christi Miami Church International Artist in Residence.

As an undergraduate at **Duke University**, he was awarded the prestigious **Louis Sudler Prize** as well as the **Benenson Award for the Arts**. Named the First Place and Grand Prize recipient of the 2022 **Heafner/Williams Vocal Competition**, he is also a winner of the **Raleigh Symphony Orchestra Rising Stars Competition,** which led to his orchestral debut in Mahler’s *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen*. Mamba has also been a finalist and prize winner in the **Mary Jacobs Singer of the Year Competition**, **Pasadena Vocal Competition**, **Mildred Miller International Voice Competition**, **Benjamin Mathews Vocal Competition**, and **Career Bridges Grant Awards**.

Mamba is a recent double graduate (Artist Diploma and Master of Music) of the **University of Miami Frost School of Music** where he studied with Metropolitan Opera baritone Kim Josephson, whom he continues to study with. When not performing, he serves as the Adjunct Faculty of Voice at **Barry University** and as the Administrative Assistant at the **Pan Am 103 Lockerbie Legacy Foundation** based in Miami. Thando, as he is more commonly known, is originally from Eswatini in Southern Africa and is committed to developing the growth of opera as a celebrated and sustainable art form in his home country and the continent of Africa at large.