

Brenden Gunnell Tenor

PRESSESTIMMEN | The bartered bride | Jenik

Brenden Gunnell's Jenik and Natalya Romaniw's Marenka come across as world-weary grown-ups rather than star-crossed kids, but their scenes have a comic tenderness which warms the heart; both sing with extraordinary grace and power. *The Independent*, 30.05.2019

Brenden Gunnell's sweet-toned, firmly articulated tenor is a perfect fit for Jenik's ardour
The Telegraph, 30.05.2019, *Rupert Christiansen*

She's well matched in Gunnell's Jenik, who has plenty of space at the top of his brawny tenor, and brings a pleasing hangdog swagger to his defiant life among the disapproving villagers.
broadwayworld.com, 30.05.19, *Alexandra Coghlan*

The lovers were sung by Natalya Romaniw and Brenden Gunnell, Welsh and American respectively, but you could so easily see them as Czech villagers....and Gunnell's heroic tone makes him perfect casting for Jenik – you could imagine them together in *Jenůfa* or *Katya Kabanova*. ... Brenden Gunnell's ecstatic singing of 'Jak možná verit' made this an especially memorable scene.
musicomh.com, 31.05.2019, *Melnie Eskenazi*

As the boyfriend who appears to have betrayed her, Brenden Gunnell's Jenik is vocally fearless and dramatically dynamic. *thestage.co.uk*, 30.05.19, *George Hall*,

Natalya Romaniw's Mařenka and Brenden Gunnell's Jeník are 'made for each other' in just about every way. It doesn't matter that, when slicing the bread for the spam sandwiches, she aims for delicate while he prefers doorstep: they're a perfect vocal and romantic match. Both have endless stamina and reserves of power, which they use judiciously. They can conjure huge passion through emotive colourings and nuances, but they can also sing with real tenderness, as in their Act 1 duet. They share a sense of fun - an extended farewell is sweet and never twee - and even when they argue there is a humorous undercurrent, Jeník haughtily but forgivingly mimicking the leg-crossing fury of the young lady who is too stubborn to listen to the truth, when she fears that her beloved has betrayed her....Gunnell displayed really captivating strength and colour; there was an ardency borne of both love and the independence of spirit with which he overcame his rejection by his step-mother. *www.operatoday.com*, 04.06.2019, *Claire Seymour*

Brenden Gunnell's Jeník can turn on the romantic tenor ardour, but his big voice succeeds in conveying his characters never fully resolved angrier side, too.
The Guardian, 05.06.2019, *Martin Kettle*

As Jeník, American tenor Brenden Gunnell was vocally totally persuasive, with a wonderful sound.
The desk.com, 03.06.2019, *Sebastian Scotney*