2004 Award Recipient

Jean-Pierre P. Trevisani ’89

Jean-Pierre Trevisani, with your bachelor's degrees in computer science and electrical engineering, you could have pursued a distinguished career in the high-tech industry. Instead, you held fast to your dreams and continued singing. Today you perform with France's national opera company – l'Opera National de Paris – and your glorious tenor voice brings pleasure to music lovers all over the world.

It was at WPI that you first found that voice. You joined the Glee Club as an inexperienced singer with an undistinguished sound. Under the tutelage of Professor Louis Curran, you blossomed into a powerful vocalist with a command of the classical repertoire. You profited from the best teachers in the Worcester area and performed on campus and with local ensembles.

After graduation, you made your living as a software engineer. Seizing every possible moment to continue your musical training, you studied nights and weekends at the New England Conservatory of Music and the Boston University Opera Institute. This exhausting effort paid off. In 1995, you were a winner at the New England Region Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, and a finalist in the Enrico Caruso International Tenor Competition in Milan, Italy.

When the big breakthrough came in 1996 – a invitation to join the Centre de Formation Lyrique de l'Opera National de Paris – your circle of WPI friends rejoiced. You made your debut with the company in Parsifal, and performed roles in Faust and Rigoletto. Despite your world travels and your busy concert schedule, you found time to return to your alma mater in 2001 to honor some of WPI's most generous supporters with a special performance at Tuckerman Hall.

Jean-Pierre Trevisani, we applaud the courage and hard work, and the talent and dedication that put you where you are today. You are spectacular proof that there are no limits to what one can do with a WPI education. It is with great joy that we present you with the Ichabod Washburn Young Alumni Award for Professional Achievement.