



Serena Sáenz

Soprano

Born in 1994, Spanish soprano Serena Sáenz studied at the Liceu Conservatoire in Barcelona with Prof. Dolors Aldea and at the Hochschule für Musik 'Hanns Eisler' in Berlin with Prof. Anna Korondi.

In 2019, during her first season as a member of the Staatsoper Berlin International Opera Studio, Serena was due to sing Papagena when at short notice she was asked to jump in as Pamina for the opening night of Yuval Sharon's production of *Die Zauberflöte*, conducted by Alondra de la Parra. This season's appearances at the Staatsoper include further performances of Pamina, and three notable role debuts: Frasquita *Carmen* and Der Waldvogel *Siegfried*, both conducted by Daniel Barenboim, and Zerlina *Don Giovanni* with Pablo Heras-Casado.

Previously for Staatsoper Berlin Serena has performed Taumännchen *Hänsel und Gretel*; Laretta *Betrothal in a Monastery*, Contessa Ceprano and Paggio *Rigoletto*, Dienerin 1/Kinderstimme 1 *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, Eine Hirtin *Hippolyte et Aricie*, and Papagena *Die Zauberflöte*. Further operatic engagements have included Isabella in Rossini *L'inganno felice*, Adina *L'elisir d'amore* and La Comtesse Adèle *Il Comte Ory* for Teatro Sarrià in Barcelona; Clarice in Haydn *Il Mondo della Luna* at the 'Hanns Eisler' Conservatory; Gretel *Hänsel und Gretel* at the Opernakademie Wiekersheim; Alice *Le Comte Ory* and Chiara *Il Conte di Marsico* at the Rossini in Wildbad Festival; and Susanna *Le Nozze di Figaro* (in concert) with Orfeó Catalá.

Concert appearances have included Carmina Burana at the Palau de la Música Catalana under Simon Halsey where she returns in 2020, and this season she also makes her Pierre Boulez-Saal debut performing a Scarlatti programme with Accademia Bizantina, as part of Staatsoper Berlin's Barocktage festival.

In January 2018 Serena was awarded both the Mozart Prize and the Accademia Chigiana di Siena Prize at the Viñas International Singing Contest in Barcelona. Further awards have included the International Gesangswettbewerb 'Ferruccio Tagliavini' in Austria and the Concours International de Chant in Mâcon, France.

She has also participated in masterclasses with Mariella Devia, Wolfram Rieger, Montserrat Caballé and Riccardo Frizza. Alongside her musical studies, Serena trained in ballet and modern dance in her hometown of Barcelona.