



Elizabeth Watts

Soprano

Elizabeth Watts won the 2007 Rosenblatt Recital Song Prize at the BBC Cardiff Singer of the World competition and the Outstanding Young Artist Award at the Cannes MIDEM Classique Awards as well as the 2006 Kathleen Ferrier Award. She is a former BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artist and was awarded a Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award in February 2011.

Her critically acclaimed debut recording of Schubert *Lieder* (Sony) was followed by equally acclaimed discs of Bach *Cantatas* (Harmonia Mundi), Strauss *Lieder* with Roger Vignoles (Hyperion) and Mozart arias with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and Christian Baldini (Linn Records); works by Alessandro Scarlatti with the English Concert and Laurence Cummings (Harmonia Mundi); and Couperin *Leçons de Ténèbres* with La Nuova Musica and David Bates (Harmonia Mundi). Most recently she has recorded works by Vaughan Williams with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Martyn Brabbins (Hyperion), and Dyson Choral Symphony with the Bach Choir and David Hill (Naxos).

Plans this season and beyond include Britten Spring Symphony with the LSO and Sir Simon Rattle; Rossini *Petite Messe Solennelle* with the LPO and Gustavo Gimeno; Brahms *German Requiem* with the OAE and Marin Alsop; Vaughan Williams *Sea Symphony* with the Rundfunk Sinfonieorchester Berlin and Nicholas Carter; Fauré *Requiem* with the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra and Christian Vasquez; Mozart arias with the Bremen Philharmonic and Christian Zacharias; and Ligeti *Le Grand Macabre* with the NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchester and Alan Gilbert. Forthcoming Bach performances include *Christmas Oratorio* with the Nederlands Kamerkoor and *St John Passion* with RIAS Kammerchor Berlin. She will also make appearances with the Academy of Ancient Music, RIAS Kammerchor Berlin and Bachakademie Stuttgart; and a return visit to Wigmore Hall.

Recent concerts have included Bach *St John Passion* with NDR Hannover and Andrew Manze, and with the Oslo Philharmonic and Herbert Blomstedt; Ligeti *Le Grand Macabre* with the LSO and Rattle; Mahler Symphony no. 4 with the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra; and Mahler Symphony no. 2 with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Sakami Oramo for the 2017 BBC Proms. She made several appearances at the 2018 BBC Proms, singing Schubert songs with the BBC Philharmonic and John Storgards; and the roles of La chauve-souris/La chouette/Une pastourelle in Ravel *L'enfant et les sortilèges* with the LSO and Rattle, a concert also repeated at the Lucerne Festival. She has worked with other conductors including Richard Egarr, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Michael Tilson Thomas, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Hans-Christoph Rademan and Ottavio Dantone, and ensembles including the Philharmonia Orchestra, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Akademie für Alte Musik and the Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra,.

Opera roles have included Zerlina *Don Giovanni* and Marzelline *Fidelio* for the Royal Opera, Covent Garden; Susanna *Le Nozze di Figaro* for Santa Fe Opera and WNO, for whom Elizabeth has also sung Donna Elvira *Don Giovanni*, Pamina *Die Zauberflöte* and Fiordiligi *Così fan tutte*, and the Countess in both Mozart's opera and a sequel *Figaro Gets A Divorce* by Elena Langer; Almirena in Handel *Rinaldo* for Glyndebourne on Tour and, in concert, Josephine *HMS Pinafore* at the 2015 Edinburgh Festival and Minerva *Il Ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria* with the AAM.

Elizabeth was a chorister at Norwich Cathedral and studied archaeology at Sheffield University before studying singing at the Royal College of Music in London. She was awarded an Hon DMus by Sheffield in 2013 and became a Fellow of the RCM in 2017.