



Rinat Shaham

Soprano

Born in Haifa, Rinat Shaham completed her musical studies in the United States at the Curtis Institute of Music. While still a student, she was invited to make her professional operatic debut as Zerlina with the Opera Company of Philadelphia, the same role she performed for her debut in New York City and Pittsburgh. Shaham made her European operatic debut as Dido in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* at the Aix en Provence Festival.

Plans this season include her debut as Marguerite in Berlioz *La Damnation de Faust* under Sir Mark Elder with the Hallé Orchestra; Maddalena in Verdi *Rigoletto* at the Bregenz Festival; title role in Massenet *Cendrillon* at Angers Nantes Opera; Ravel *Shéhérazade* with St. Louis Symphony Orchestra conducted by Stéphane Denève; Judith in Bartók *Bluebeard's Castle* with the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra under Karina Canellakis.

Recent engagements have included Judith in *Bluebeard's Castle* with Sir Simon Rattle and the Berlin Philharmonic; the title role of *Carmen* for Opera Australia (Sydney and Melbourne), Wielki Theater Warsaw, Palm Beach Opera, Greek National Opera; Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* new production directed by Krysztof Warlikowski in La Monnaie, Brussels and at Angers Nantes Opera; Preziosilla in *La forza del destino* at English National Opera; a New Year's Eve Gala with Christian Thielemann, Lang-Lang and the Staatskapelle Dresden, broadcast across Europe on ZDF TV; Cherubino in *Le nozze di Figaro* with the Israel Philharmonic; Berlioz *Les Nuits d'été* with Dan Ettinger and the Stuttgarter Philharmoniker and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* with Ludovic Morlot and the Seattle Symphony.

Internationally recognized as one of today's finest interpreters of Bizet's *Carmen*, she first performed the role at the 2004 Glyndebourne Festival. She has since portrayed *Carmen* in Vienna, Rome, Berlin, Munich, Hamburg, Stuttgart, Cologne, Baden Baden, Lisbon, Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, Tel Aviv, Hong Kong, Sydney, and the United States.

Equally acclaimed as an orchestral soloist and recitalist, Rinat Shaham has collaborated with conductors such as Sir Simon Rattle, Christoph Eschenbach, Sir Mark Elder, William Christie, André Previn, Leonard Slatkin, and David Robertson in works ranging from Bach *Magnificat* to Stravinsky *Les Noces*.

She has recorded excerpts from operas by Lully under William Christie for Erato as well as a solo CD of Gershwin and Purcell and another of Benedetto Marcello with The Viol Group "Fuoco e Cenere" on ATMA. She made her feature film debut as the "Jazz Singer" in the István Szábo film, "Taking Sides", with Harvey Keitel. Her performance as Carmen from the Australian Opera has also been released on DVD.