



Claudia Huckle

Contralto

British contralto Claudia Huckle studied at the Royal College of Music in London, the New England Conservatory and the Curtis Institute of Music. She was the 2004 Grand Final Winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and is a graduate of the prestigious Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program at Washington National Opera. She was the 2013 winner of the Birgit Nilsson Remembrance Award at Plácido Domingo's Operalia competition at Verona - the first female, and first British recipient. She was a member of the ensemble at Leipzig Opera for four seasons from 2009.

Plans this season and beyond include her début at Teatro alla Scala Milan singing Die allwissende Muschel in Strauss *Die Ägyptische Helena*, conducted by Franz Welser-Möst. She will sing Flosshilde *Das Rheingold* for Teatro Real, Madrid; Erda *Das Rheingold / Siegfried* for Grand Théâtre de Genève; and return to the Royal Opera to sing First Norn *Götterdämmerung* and Schwertleite *Die Walküre*; and she will make her début at Opéra National de Paris, also in the *Ring Cycle*. Concert plans include Brahms *Alto Rhapsody* with the Northern Sinfonia and Lars Vogt; Bach *St Matthew Passion* with the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra and Nicholas McGegan; Handel *Messiah* with the Freiburg Baroque Orchestra and Trevor Pinnock; Mahler *Symphony No 2* at the Festival de Saint-Denis with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France and Myung-Whun Chung; Schwertleite with the Bayerische Rundfunk Symphony Orchestra and Sir Simon Rattle; Mahler *Kindertotenlieder* with the BBCSO and Michael Sanderling; Mendelssohn *Elijah* with the BBCSO and Sakari Oramo; and Mahler *Symphony No 8* with the Gustav Mahler Jugendorchester and Daniel Harding.

Opera roles include Erda *Das Rheingold / Siegfried* for Opera North and Oper Leipzig; the title role in Britten *The Rape of Lucretia* and Suzuki *Madam Butterfly* for Glyndebourne on Tour; Hippolyta in Britten *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for Glyndebourne Festival Opera; Marfa in Mussorgsky *Khovanshchina* for Birmingham Opera Company; Mérope *Oedipe* at the Royal Opera House, where she also appeared as Third Lady *Zauberflöte*, a role she has sung at the Festival d'Aix en Provence and for Dresden Semperoper; Olga, Hänsel, Third Lady for Leipzig Opera; and Dalila in Saint-Saëns *Samson et Dalila* for the Chelsea Opera Group. In concert she has also sung Anna in Berlioz *Les Troyens* with Valery Gergiev and Maxwell Davies' *Hogboon* under Sir Simon Rattle, both with the LSO.

Recent concerts include *Dream of Gerontius*, Elgar *Sea Pictures* and Mahler *Symphony No 2* with Hallé Orchestra; Elgar *Sea Pictures* with BBC National Orchestra of Wales; Verdi Requiem in King's College Cambridge; and Mendelssohn-Handel *Israel in Ägypten* with the King's Consort. She appeared as a soloist with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales conducted by Thomas Sondergard performing Mahler *Symphony No 8* at the 2018 BBC Proms.

Other past concerts include Schubert *Mass in A flat* and Beethoven *Choral Fantasy* with Kent Nagano and the Deutsches Symphonie Orchester; De Falla *El amor brujo* with Britten Sinfonia; Mahler *Symphony No 3* with Real Filharmonía de Galicia and in King's College Cambridge, both with Paul Daniel; Mahler *Lieder* with the Britten Sinfonia and the Royal Scottish National Orchestra; and *Missa Solemnis* with Sir Roger Norrington at King's College Cambridge.