biography

MARITA SØLBERG - SOPRANO

"Norwegian soprano Marita Sølberg as an unforgettable Mimì of the highest international standard". *Opera Now*

Marita Sølberg recently made her role debut as Mimi *La bohème* at the Norwegian National Opera to critical acclaim, a role that won her the Music Critics Prize in Norway. Highlights in 2012/13 season include Giulietta *I Capuleti e i Montecchi,* Female Chorus *The Rape of Lucretia*, and Nedda *I Pagliacci* at the Norwegian National Opera, Contessa *Le nozze di Figaro* for Teatro La Fenice and concerts with Le Cercle de l'Harmonie in Bremen and Brussels, Górecki Symphony No. 3 with Sinfonia Varsovia, Haydn *Creation* with Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome, and a gala concert with the Oslo Philharmonic. Next season she will also sing Donna Elvira *Don Giovanni,* Antonia *Les contes d'Hoffmann*, and concerts with BBC National Orchestra of Wales and Orchestre de Paris.

Sølberg was a company member of Staatsteater Stuttgart in 2006-2008, and joined the Norwegian Opera as a Principal Artist in 2008. Her operatic roles include Michaëla *Carmen,* Gretel *Hänsel und Gretel,* Contessa *Le nozze di Figaro*, title role *Zaide*, Pamina *Die Zauberflöte*, Celia *Lucio Silla*, Servilia *La Clemenza di Tito,* Female Chorus *The Rape of Lucretia*, Kathrine Sigismund *The fourth Watch of the Night*, Marzelline *Fidelio,* and Bellezza *Il trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno*. She has also made her Glyndebourne Festival debut as Zerlina in Jonathan Kent's production of *Don Giovanni*, conducted by Robin Ticciati. Renowned for her performance of Solveig in *Peer Gynt*, she has sung this role in Norway, Sweden, Germany (Berliner Philharmoniker), Spain and the US. In 2010, She performed 'Solveig's song' at the Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony in Oslo.

Her versatile concert repertoire span across Baroque and contemporary works. Most recently she sang Gounod's *Messe Solennelle de Sainte Cécile* with Orchestre de Paris, a Handel, Mozart, Bach programme at the Mozarteum, Salzburg and a European tour of *St Matthew Passion* with Les Musiciens de Louvre under Marc Minkowski. Other concert repertoire include Purcell's *Ode to St. Cecilia,* Bach's *St John Passion* and *Christmas Oratorio,* Pergolesi's *L'Orfeo,* Handel's *Messiah*, Haydn's *Die Schöpfung* and *Cäcilienmesse*, Mozart's *Coronation Mass,* Mass in C Minor, *Exultate Jubilate* and Requiem, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Faure's Requiem, Mahler Symphony Nos. 2 & 4, Berg *Sieben frühe lieder* and Górecki's Symphony No.3.

Marita Sølberg performs regularly with Les musiciens de Louvre and Orchestre de Paris, and has also worked with BBC Symphony Orchestra, Mahler Chamber Orchestra, Sinfonia Varsovia, Norwegian Baroque Orchestra, Bergen Phiharmonic Orchestra, and Gotenburg Symphony Orchestra. She has also worked with such conductors as Zubin Mehta, Neeme Järvi, Michael Hofstetter, Michel Plasson, Eivind Aadland, Eduardo Lopez-Banzo, Rinaldo Alessandrini, Andreas Spering, Paul McCreesh, Jean-Christoph Spinosi and Roland Böer. Her discography includes *Peer Gynt* and Grieg's orchestral songs, both with the Bergen Philharmonic for BIS.

Trained in Norway, Marita Sølberg won the Queen Sonja International Music Competition and was a prize winner at the Hans Gabor Belvedere Singing Competition in Vienna. In 2011, she was awarded the Tom Wilhelmsens Foundation prize at the Norwegian National Opera and Ballet, in recognition of her artistry and musical achievements as a young artist, both nationally and internationally.

Marita Sølberg is represented worldwide by Intermusica.
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