



## ELIZABETH LLEWELLYN MBE – Soprano

Known internationally for her “*rich, opulent voice*” (The Times) as well as for her “*beautiful depth of expression and emotional intelligence*” (The Telegraph), Elizabeth was awarded an MBE in The Queen’s Birthday Honours 2022 for services to classical music and was made a Fellow of the Royal Northern College of Music in 2019.

The 2024/25 season has started with her highly acclaimed debut as **Agathe** in *Der Freischütz*. Further highlights this season include Elizabeth's first *Liebestod* (Wagner) with the Orchestra of Opera North, Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* with the Münchner Rundfunkorchester, and Ravel’s *Shéhérazade* at the Teatro Maggio Musicale in Florence conducted by Jérémie Rhorer.

Although Puccini has featured heavily throughout Elizabeth’s career - from her operatic debut as **Mimi** *La bohème*, taking in **Giorgetta** *Il Tabarro*, **Suor Angelica**, **Manon Lescaut**, **Magda** *La Rondine*, **Tosca**, and **Madama Butterfly** – it is Elizabeth’s appearances as Verdi’s heroines which have cemented her reputation in Italianate repertoire: **Aida**, **Luisa Miller**, **Alice Ford** *Falstaff*, **Desdemona** *Otello*, and **Amelia Grimaldi** *Simon Boccanegra* which earned Elizabeth a nomination for “Singer of the Year 2013” in *OpernWelt* magazine.

Other landmark role- and company-debuts have been **Elsa** *Lohengrin* (Theater Magdeburg), **Jenůfa** (Welsh National Opera), the title-role in *Ariadne auf Naxos* (Opera North), and most recently **Ellen Orford** *Peter Grimes* in David Alden’s acclaimed production for English National Opera. Other roles include **Margherita/Elena** in Boito’s *Mefistofele*, and notably Mozart’s heroines: **Donna Elvira** *Don Giovanni*, **Fiordiligi** *Così fan tutte*, and **Contessa Almaviva** *Le Nozze di Figaro*.

In 2014 Elizabeth made her house and role debut at the Royal Danish Opera as **Bess** in Gershwin’s *Porgy and Bess*, a role with which she made her US debut at Seattle Opera, and most notably her house debut at the Metropolitan Opera, New York where she reprised the role the following season.

Since the pandemic, Elizabeth has formed a recital partnership with renowned pianist Simon Lepper. They have performed regularly at London’s Wigmore Hall, Edinburgh International Festival, Snape Maltings, Oxford International Lieder Festival, West Wicklow Festival, and for Vocal Arts DC at the Kennedy Centre in Washington amongst others. In 2021, Elizabeth released her debut solo album *Heart & Hereafter* (recorded during lockdown) - a collection of twenty-five songs by the British composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, fifteen of which were world-premieres – which reached the Top 5 in the iTunes classical album charts, was named “Album of the Week” in the Sunday Times and won “World Premiere Recording of the Year” in the Presto Music Awards 2021.

As a regular concert soloist, highlights have included the world-premiere of James MacMillan's *When Soft Voices Die* at the First Night of the BBC Proms 2021, the UK premiere of Martinsson's *Ich Denke Dein*, Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, R. Strauss' *Vier Letzte Lieder* twice with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, under the batons of Donald Runnicles, Carlo Rizzi, and Martyn Brabbins, Mahler's *Symphony No. 8* with Esa-Pekka Salonen, Verdi's *Requiem*, Britten's *War Requiem*, Mahler's *Symphony No.4*, and Tippett's *A Child of Our Time*. Elizabeth's discography includes Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and the role of **Eigen** in Elgar's *Caractacus* for Hyperion, both under the baton of Martyn Brabbins.

February 2025

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