



**SARAH GILFORD – Soprano**

***‘Sophie was charming debutante Sarah Gilford, whose lyric soprano fitted the role like a glove - more from her, please.’ (Opera Now)***

Praised for her crystal-clear voice and vivid stage presence, British soprano **Sarah Gilford** opens the season as **Nerea** in a new production of Handel’s *Deidamia* at the Wexford Festival Opera. The production will later be revived at the International Handel Festival in Göttingen, followed by a new staging of Johann Christian Bach’s *Zanaida* with the Kammerakademie Potsdam. Further season highlights include her performance as soloist in Beethoven’s *Ninth Symphony* at the Royal Albert Hall and a recital at London’s renowned Wigmore Hall.

In recent seasons, Sarah Gilford made role debuts as **Dalinda** in Handel’s *Ariodante* with Les Arts Florissants at the Grand Théâtre de Genève, and as the **Governess** in Britten’s *The Turn of the Screw* in a new production by Isabelle Kettle at the Theatre Royal in Bath. She also appeared as **Woglinde** in Wagner’s *Götterdämmerung* in Klagenfurt, sang Mendelssohn’s *Elijah* with the Berlin Philharmonic, and made her debut as **Sophie** in *Werther* at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden under Sir Antonio Pappano.

At the Bayerische Staatsoper in Munich, she has been heard as **Mignon** (title role) at the Cuvilliés Theatre, as **Giannetta** in *L’elisir d’amore*, as the **Sandman** in *Hänsel und Gretel*, and as **Barbarina** in *Le nozze di Figaro*.

She made her Wigmore Hall recital debut with pianist Ewa Danilewska, and has appeared as soloist in Handel’s *Messiah*, Beethoven’s *Ninth Symphony* with the Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini in Parma, and in gala concerts with the Armenian State Symphony Orchestra and the Festival:philharmonie Westfalen. In Munich’s Herkulesaal, she performed as soloist in Mahler’s *Second Symphony*.

A finalist at the BBC Cardiff Singer of the World 2021, Sarah Gilford is a graduate of the Opera Studio at the Bayerische Staatsoper and was a company member at the Stadttheater Klagenfurt during the 2021/22 season, where she appeared as **Susanna** (*Le nozze di Figaro*), **Soprano I** in Rihm's *Jakob Lenz*, and **Gilda** (*Rigoletto*).

She is supported by the Kiri Te Kanawa Foundation, the Imogen Cooper Music Trust, and the Samling Institute for Young Artists.

Keynote Artist Management represent Sarah Gilford in the UK and Ireland in conjunction with Herbst Artists.

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***This approved biography is not to be altered or shortened without the management's permission. Please replace older versions.***

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