

Artistic career of Susannah Haberfeld

Susannah Haberfeld studied singing and acting at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. Her diploma at the Swiss Opera Studio in Biel was followed by engagements at the Opera of Bern and Luxembourg where she sang the title role in "Die Heilige Johanna der Schlachthöfe", Brecht/Fennigstein - the genre of contemporary and church opera was to accompany her on her further path.

After engagements at the Bern Opera with "Die Zauberflöte", Second and Third Lady, Mercedes in "Carmen" and Unto's wife in Aulis Sallinen's opera "Kullervo", she sang with the Académie européenne de musique d'Aix-en-Provence in "Don Giovanni", staged by Peter Brook, conducted by Claudio Abbado and Daniel Harding, and in "Die Zauberflöte", directed by Stefan Braunschweig, conducted by David Stern. Both renowned productions toured internationally. This was followed by Gioconda Farfalla in the world premiere of the commissioned opera "Black Tell" for the Swiss National Exhibition Expo.02.

She guests frequently: Nancy in "Martha", Theater Hof, at the Opera Ireland, Dublin - Calixto Bieito's "Carmen", Lucerne "Die Fledermaus" Prince Orlovsky, Zurich "The Mikado" and "The Pirates of Penzance", Gilbert & Sullivan under Howard Griffiths, Berliner Philharmonie as Daliah "Samson et Dalilah", directed by Hendrik Müller, as well as Miss Sedley in Benjamin Britten's opera "Peter Grimes" at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein in Düsseldorf, Leokadja Begbick in "Mahagonny" by Brecht/Weil at the Tel Aviv Opera, Israel, directed by: Omri Nitzan, conductor: David Stern.

This was followed in 2010 at the Vienna Festival by Janáček's "From the House of the Dead", directed by Patrice Chéreau and conducted by Pierre Boulez - this recording is available on DVD and has been revived at La Scala in Milan under Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Opéra de Bastille in Paris, as well as in Berlin under Sir Simon Rattle.

From 2007 to 2010 Susannah Haberfeld was a member of the OPER HALLE ensemble where she appeared as Cherubino in "The Marriage of Figaro", Hansel in "Hansel and Gretel", Stella in "Frau Luna", the Second Lady in "The Magic Flute" and Olga in "Yevgeny Onegin", La Zélatrice in "Suor Angelica", an Elf in Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (ballet) and Madelaine in "Madame Pompadour".

This was followed by "Die arabische Nacht" by Christian Jost and Dame Ragonde in Rossini's "Le Comte Ory" staged by Frank Hilbrich, followed by "Wunderhorn", a staged song cycle by Anno Schreier (world premiere). She ended her engagement at the Halle Opera with the production "Die Kinder des Mister Händel" as part of the 2010 Handel Festival.

Susannah Haberfeld sang the two world premieres of the church opera "The Birth of the Baptist" by Jirki Linjamas in the production by Yoshi Oida and the title role in "Sara and her Men" by Bruno Strobl at the Carinthian Summer, Austria.

Recently she has begun to sing Wagner Repertoire as Rossweisse in "Die Walküre" at the Opernhaus Zürich as well as Kundry in Parsifal.

Her concert repertoire includes Verdi's "Requiem" Mozart's "Requiem", Herman Suter's "Le Laudi", as well as a varied song repertoire.

She is a trustee of the Martha von Castelberg Foundation and has also made a name for herself as a director, teacher and project manager of various social and educational theatre projects.