



KRISTINE OPOLAIS

Soprano

Kristine Opolais is one of the most sought after sopranos on the international scene today, appearing at the Metropolitan Opera New York, Wiener Staatsoper, Deutsche Staatsoper Berlin, Bayerische Staatsoper, Teatro alla Scala, Opernhaus Zürich and Royal Opera House Covent Garden. She is working with such conductors as Daniel Barenboim, Antonio Pappano, Sir Simon Rattle, Sir Mark Elder, Daniel Harding, Andris Nelsons, Fabio Luisi, Kirill Petrenko and Semyon Bychkov.

In the 2017/18 season Opolais continues her notable collaboration with the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, making her role debut as Elsa in "Lohengrin", in a new production by David Alden, starring opposite Klaus Florian Vogt. Previously in London, Opolais has particularly cemented her title as "the leading Puccini Soprano of today" (The Telegraph), appearing in Kent's 2014 production as Manon Lescaut, as well as starring as Cio-Cio San and Floria Tosca. This season Opolais also looks forward to making her debut at the Hamburg Staatsoper in "Madama Butterfly" in two special performance as part of the Italian Opera Festival. She also returns for performances of this signature role at the Wiener Staatsoper.

Kristine Opolais is particularly known for her notable collaborations with the Metropolitan Opera, her performances frequently broadcast in HD worldwide. She recently starred as the title role in Zimmerman's 2017 production of "Rusalka", and she received the highest critical praise for her "vocally lustrous and aching vulnerable performance" (NY Times). Opolais has maintained this strong relationship with the Met since her debut as Magda in "La Rondine" in 2013. Famously, in 2014 Opolais made history at the Met, with two role debuts in 18 hours. She gave a renowned performance in "Butterfly", only to step in for a matinee of "La bohème" the next day, which was additionally cinema broadcast worldwide and Opolais wowed audiences around the globe. She has also forged a strong relationship with the Bayerische Staatsoper, which began in 2010 when Opolais made her debut, to wide acclaim, as Rusalka in Kušej's production. Since this time Opolais has appeared in numerous titles including "Manon Lescaut", "Madama Butterfly", Tatjana in "Onegin" and Margherita in "Mefistofele". Opolais also notably appeared as the title role of "Jenůfa" at Opernhaus Zürich, in a new production by Tcherniakov.

In recent seasons, Opolais' concert performances have included appearances at Salzburg Festival, BBC Proms and Tanglewood Festival, where Opolais is a regular guest – this season headlining the closing weekend in an opera gala, including Act II of "Tosca", with Sir Bryn Terfel. Opolais has appeared with orchestras including the Berliner Philharmoniker, Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, Concertgebouworkest, Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks and Filarmonica della Scala. Highlights of 2017/18 include Opolais' joining an all-star cast, with Piotr Beczala and Rene Papé in Dvorak's Stabat Mater, opening the Prague Festival. She also debuts with the Wiener Philharmoniker, which stands as her third consecutive season appearing at the prestigious Musikverein.

Opolais' forthcoming recording is a DVD of Tosca, from Himmelmann's 2017 production in Baden-Baden, with the Berliner Philharmoniker, conducted by Rattle. Further DVD recordings include Royal Opera House's "Manon Lescaut", in which Opolais sings the title role opposite Jonas Kaufmann, Prokofiev's "The Gambler" at the Deutsche Staatsoper under the baton of Barenboim and "Rusalka" from the Bayerische Staatsoper. CD recordings include those with WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln of "Suor Angelica", released with Orfeo and nominated for a BBC Music Magazine Award, "Simon Boccanegra" on the Decca label and collaborating with Jonas Kaufmann on his Grammy recognised Puccini disc with Sony.

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