

# Francesca Chiejina

Soprano



“...even though it’s virtually the first thing we hear, it’s hard to forget the radiance of Francesca Chiejina’s Clara when she delivers her peachy Summertime.”

Neil Fisher, *The Times*

Nigerian-American soprano Francesca Chiejina is a recent graduate of the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, where her roles included **Countess Ceprano** *Rigoletto*, **Lady-in-Waiting** *Macbeth*, **Voice from Heaven** *Don Carlo*, and **Ines** *Il trovatore*. She also sang **Micaëla** *La tragédie de Carmen* at Wilton’s Music Hall, **Melantho/Love** *The Return of Ulysses* at the Roundhouse, and the soprano solos in Gorecki’s *Third Symphony* for the world premiere of a new work by renowned choreographer Crystal Pite for The Royal Ballet, and covered **Ifigenia** *Oreste*, **Antonia** *Les Contes d’Hoffmann*, **Giannetta** *L’elisir d’amore*, and **Arbate** *Midridate, re di Ponto*.

In the 2020-21 season she sings **Miss Jessel** *The Turn of the Screw* for OperaGlass Works, **Freia** *Das Rheingold* for Birmingham Opera Company and **Anne Trulove** *The Rake’s Progress* for Blackheath Halls Opera. She also sings Handel’s *Messiah* at the Royal Albert Hall and Schubert’s *Winterreise* in recital at Blackheath Halls.

Recent highlights include her debut with Capella Cracoviensis as **Aldimira** *Sigismondo* and her house and role debut as **Clara** *Porgy and Bess* at Grange Park Opera.

Other recent performances include her debut with the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal (**Serena** *Porgy and Bess*); Vaughan Williams’ *Serenade to Music* at the Last Night of the BBC Proms; **Cio-Cio San** *Madama Butterfly* (scenes) at Guildhall School of Music and Drama; and **Pamina** *Die Zauberflöte*, **Berta** *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, **Countess** *Le nozze di Figaro* (scenes) and **Alice Ford** *Falstaff* (scenes), all at the University of Michigan.

Chiejina has participated in masterclasses with Martin Katz, Kamal

Khan, Gianna Rolandi, Joyce DiDonato, Brigitte Fassbänder, Edith Wiens and Felicity Lott. Competition successes include reaching the finals of the inaugural Glyndebourne Opera Cup in 2018, the semi-finals in the National Mozart Competition and winning the GSMD English Song Prize, the GSMD Aria Prize, as well as second prize in the Classical Singer Competition. She was also a finalist in the 2017 Kathleen Ferrier Awards. She has received Loveday, Marianne Falke, Maurice H and Evangeline L Dumesnil, George Shirley Voice and Willis-Patterson Scholarships.

Chiejina previously studied at the University of Michigan with Martha Sheil and James Paterson, and at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama with Sue McCulloch.

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