

Justina Gringytė

Mezzo-soprano



“Lithuanian mezzo Justina Gringyte has a thunderously powerful voice and sings with old-school fervour”

The Telegraph

2015 International Opera Awards Young Singer of the Year, Lithuanian mezzo-soprano Justina Gringytė has received the highest praise for her “knockout technique” (*The Times*) and “thunderously powerful voice” (*The Telegraph*). The 2019-20 season sees her return to Lithuanian National Opera and English National Opera (title role *Carmen*) and Korean National Opera (*Hänsel und Gretel*). She also makes her role debut as Santuzza *Cavalleria Rusticana* (Scottish Opera).

Highlights of the 2018-19 season included her house debut at Korean National Opera (*Hänsel und Gretel*), her house and role debut as Suzuki *Madama Butterfly* (Gran Teatre del Liceu) and her role debut as Tigrana *Edgar* (Scottish Opera). Other engagements included returns to Welsh National Opera (Sara *Roberto Devereux*) and Lithuanian National Opera (*Romeo I Capuleti e i Montecchi*) and concert performances with the CBSO (Boulanger’s *Psalms 130* at the BBC Proms), Frankfurt Radio Symphony (cond. Oroszo Estrada) and a Wigmore Hall recital with pianist Iain Burnside as part of their Russian Series.

Engagements in the 2017-18 season included returns to Welsh National Opera (Preziosilla in David Pountney’s new production of *La Forza del Destino*) and Lithuanian National Opera (title role *Carmen* and her role debut as *Romeo I Capuleti e i Montecchi*), as well as her role debut as Dalila *Samson et Dalila* (Vilnius City Opera). Other engagements included Beethoven’s *Symphony No 9* at the Royal Albert Hall (Royal Philharmonic Orchestra) and a series of recitals with Petras Geniušas.

Gringytė’s previous highlights include title role *Carmen* (English National Opera; Scottish Opera; Teatro Massimo, Palermo; Sao Carlo, Lisbon; Lithuanian National Opera and Novosibirsk Opera and Ballet Theatre); Fenena *Nabucco* (Welsh National Opera); *Hänsel und Gretel* (Vilnius City Opera); Maddalena *Rigoletto* (Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; Teatro Real, Madrid; English National Opera and Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow) and Marguerite *La damnation de Faust* (Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow).

Equally in demand on the concert platform, recent performances include Mahler *Symphony No 3* (Lithuanian State Symphony Orchestra cond. Gintaras Rinkevičius); Mahler *Symphony No 8* (Philharmonia Orchestra cond. Esa-Pekka Salonen); Beethoven *Symphony No. 9* (London Philharmonic Orchestra cond. Kazushi Ono); Verdi *Requiem* (Simón Bolívar Orchestra cond. Gustavo Dudamel); Dvořák’s *Stabat Mater* (Lithuanian State Symphony Orchestra); Raminta Šerkšnyte’s *Songs of Sunset and Dawn* (Lithuanian National Philharmonic Orchestra cond. Giedrė Šlekytė); Respighi *Il tramonto* and Britten *Phaedra* (Klaipėda Chamber Orchestra); a gala concert with the Lithuanian National Philharmonic Orchestra and the closing concert of XV International Tytuvėnai Festival with Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet House Orchestra (cond. Robertas Šervėnikas). She has given concert performances of Kaled *Le roi de Lahore* and Dulcinée *Don Quichotte* (Chelsea Opera Group cond. Renato Balsadonna); Meg Page *Falstaff* (CBSO cond. Ed Gardner) and *Carmen* in Moscow and St Petersburg and Olga *Eugene Onegin* (cond. Mikhail Simonyan). Recent recitals include a recital of Rachmaninov songs with Julius Drake in Antwerp and a Wigmore Hall recital with Iain Burnside.

Gringytė studied at Lithuania’s Academy of Music and Theatre, the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and the National Opera Studio in London. She studies with Buddug Verona James and is a former Samling and Jette Parker Young Artist. Her debut recording *The Complete Rachmaninov Songs* (Delphian, with Iain Burnside) was shortlisted for the 2014 *Gramophone* Awards and her recording of Medtner songs, also with Iain Burnside, was released in 2018 to great acclaim, with *Gramophone* praising the disc’s “fresh new perspective”.

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