

Julia Sporsén

Soprano



“ Julia Sporsén was a terrific Nedda, feisty, fiery, vocally secure and dramatically impressive”
Hugo Shirley, Opera

Julia Sporsén was born in Gothenburg, Sweden. The child of two professional opera singers she began her voice and piano studies at a young age. After reading drama at Gothenburg University, Julia studied for three years at the Operastudio67 in Stockholm.

After private studies with Susanna Rigacci in Florence, she commenced her postgraduate studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London with Joy Mammen and Iain Ledingham, and graduated from the Royal Academy Opera Course with the highest award, DipRAM. She was also the winner of the Opera Rara Patric Schmidt Bel Canto Prize and the Flora Nielsen Song Prize.

In 2009 Julia made her debut at English National Opera singing **Jano** (whilst covering the roles of **Jenufa** and **Musetta** *La bohème*). She then became a Harewood Artist with the company, where other roles have included **Katya** in Weinberg's *The Passenger*, **Livia** in Glanert's *Caligula*, **Rosalinde** *Die Fledermaus*, and the title role in Martinu's **Julietta**. She has also created two roles in world premieres: **Julia** in Torsten Rasch's *The Duchess of Malfi* and **Antigone** in Julian Anderson's *The Thebans*. The directors she has worked with there include David Pountney, Christopher Alden, Richard Jones and Pierre Audi.

Other notable appearances include **Tebaldo** *Don Carlos* for Opera North in a production that has been recorded for Chandos Records, **Micaëla** *Carmen*, **Gilda** *Rigoletto* and **Nedda** *Pagliacci* for Opera Holland Park, **Kumudha** in John Adams's opera *A Flowering Tree* for Göteborg Opera, and **Donna Anna** *Don Giovanni* and **Regan** in the world premiere of *Promised End* by Alexander Goehr for English Touring Opera. In 2012 she made her debut at the Royal Swedish Opera singing **Micaëla** in *Carmen*.

Other roles include **Vitellia** *La clemenza di Tito*, **Donna Elvira** *Don Giovanni*, **Mimi** *La bohème*, **Arminda** *La Finta Giardiniera*, **Armida** *Rinaldo*, **Adina** *L'Elisir d'Amore*, **Iphise** in Rameau's *Dardanus* with Laurence

Cummings, and the title role in Tchaikovsky's **Iolanta** with Steuart Bedford.

Notable concert engagements include recitals at London's Wigmore Hall, and at Royal Opera House Covent Garden with Joseph Middleton, Mozart's concert aria *Bella mia fiamma* conducted by Sir Colin Davis, Beethoven's 9th Symphony with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Haydn's *Creation* with the Manchester Camerata, Haydn's *Stabat Mater* with the London Mozart Players in St James's Piccadilly and an appearance at Glastonbury Abbey where she sang Tatyana's Letter scene from *Eugene Onegin* with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Charles Hazlewood. She has also toured with a one-woman show "Dreamlives" for the Liederkreis company: a staged performance of lieder by R. Strauss, Berg and Schönberg, with performances around the United Kingdom including the Leeds Lieder Festival.

Recent engagements include **Violetta** *La Traviata* for Folksoperan in Stockholm, concerts with the Göteborg Symfoniker and Göteborg Wind Band, and, as a member of the ensemble at Gothenburg Opera, **Micaela** *Carmen*, **Pamina** *Die Zauberflöte*, **Elsalill** *Herr Arne Penningar*, and *La Traviata*; at Opera Holland Park she made her role debut in the title role of **Kat'a Kabanova** to critical acclaim.

Future plans include a role and house debut as **Komponist** in Scottish Opera's new production of *Ariadne*, which she will also sing at Opera Holland Park later in the season. Next season Julia also returns to Gothenburg Opera for another role debut. [↪](#)

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