

Ronnita Miller

Mezzo Soprano



" Ronnita Miller is a true contralto and sang flawlessly as Erda and the First Norn"
San Francisco Classical Voice, Lisa Hirsch, 19 June 2018

" ...the lush timbre of mezzo-soprano Ronnita Miller (Erda) all worked well...Miller is nothing less than a force of nature, the sumptuousness of her sound emerging from the floor of the stage as she rises from below for her entrance is very effective."
The Opera Tattler, 21 June 2018

American mezzo-soprano Ronnita Miller continues her upward career trajectory in Season 2018-19 in her sixth season as a permanent member of the ensemble at Deutsche Oper Berlin. Performances there this season include Berlioz's *Roméo et Juliette* before she travels to Lyric Opera Chicago to sing her signature role of Erda *Siegfried*. The artist then sings Erda *Das Rheingold* at Teatro Real, Madrid before returning to the Metropolitan Opera to sing First Norn, Schwertleite and Erda (cover) *Der Ring des Nibelungen*.

Last season at Deutsche Oper Berlin, Ms Miller recreated the roles of Third Lady *Die Zauberflöte*, Mary *Der fliegende Holländer*, Handmaiden *L'Invisible*, Fenena *Nabucco*, Marcellina *Le nozze di Figaro* and Lucia *Cavalleria rusticana*. She then traveled to San Francisco Opera to sing Erda and First Norn in *Der Ring des Nibelungen*.

Recent highlights include Ulrika *Un Ballo in Maschera* and Madelon *Andrea Chenier* as well as appearing in revival performances of some of the roles that have brought her the admiration of Berlin audiences such as Marthe Schwertlein *Faust* and Erda and First Norn *Der Ring des Nibelungen*. She joined Semperoper Dresden as Erda under the baton of Christian Thielemann. Guest appearances elsewhere included the role of Armando *Le Grand Macabre* under the baton of Simon Rattle with both the London Symphony Orchestra and the Berlin Philharmonic, as well as Verdi's *Requiem* at Opernhaus Hannover.

Miss Miller joined the ensemble at the Deutsche Oper Berlin for the 2013-14 Season and made her house debut with the roles of Grimgerde *Die Walküre* and First Norn *Götterdämmerung*; other roles there since have included Anna *Les Troyens*, Dryade *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Bianca *The Rape of Lucretia*, Alice *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Filipevna *Eugene Onegin*, Wowkle *La Fanciulla del West*, Geneviève *Pelléas et Mélisande*, Mama Lucia *Cavalleria Rusticana*, Marcellina *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Third Lady *Die Zauberflöte*, Fenena *Nabucco*, and Maddalena/Giovanna *Rigoletto*.

Recent career highlights include her role debut as Fricka *Die Walküre* with the Odense Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Alexander Vedernikov; Mary *Der Fliegende Höllander* at Ravinia Festival, a role she previously sang at Los Angeles Opera, and her debut as Mistress Quickly in Los Angeles Opera's *Falstaff*. She sang at Cincinnati's May Festival in Mahler's *Eighth Symphony* and in a special anniversary performance of Nathaniel Dett's *The Ordering of Moses* under the baton of James Conlon which was also presented at New York's Carnegie Hall in a live broadcast performance.

Past successes include role debuts as Tisbe *La Cenerentola*, Filipevna *Eugene Onegin*, Gertrude *Roméo et Juliette* and Florence Pike *Albert Herring* at Los Angeles Opera; at Ravinia Festival she sang Third Lady with Chicago Symphony Orchestra and James Conlon; she also appeared as Erda and First Norn in San Francisco Opera's new production of *Der Ring des Nibelungen* directed by Francesca Zambello and conducted by Donald Runnicles, and sang First Norn at the Metropolitan Opera under the baton of Fabio Luisi in the new production of *Der Ring des Nibelungen* by Robert Lepage.

A Florida native, Ronnita Miller received her Masters of Music from the Manhattan School of Music, and graduated from the prestigious Juilliard Opera School before spending two years in the Domingo-Thornton Young Artist Program at Los Angeles Opera. She made her company debut as La Badessa *Suor Angelica* in 2008 before joining the cast of Joachim Freyer's controversial production of *Der Ring des Nibelungen* in the roles of Schwertleite and Flosshilde while additionally covering Erda.

At Juilliard, she appeared as Håta *The Bartered Bride*, Maman *L'enfant et les sortilèges*, Hippolyta *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Dido *Dido and Aeneas*; as a member of San Francisco Opera's Merola Program in 2005 she sang Tisbe and the Old Prioress *Dialogues des Carmélites* in concert. The following year as a Filene Young Artist with the eminent Wolf Trap Opera Company, she appeared as Ascalax in the North American premiere of Telemann's *Orpheus*; Ragonde *Le Comte Ory*. Other roles in Miss Miller's repertoire include Azucena *Il Trovatore* and Eboli *Don Carlos*, both in preparation.

Future appearances include the artist's return to the role of Erda *The Ring* with performances at Lyric Opera of Chicago and at Teatro Real.

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