

Rowan Hellier

Mezzo-Soprano



“ And at the centre of everything, the Lucretia of the young Scottish mezzo Rowan Hellier is totally gripping, neurotically yet credibly acted, superbly sung in a rich, expressive contralto-like timbre.”

Richard Morrison
The Times

Scottish mezzo-soprano **Rowan Hellier** has already attracted considerable attention as one of the most exciting young talents to be seen on the European operatic stage and concert platform. Praised for her ‘wonderfully mature, powerful and warm’ voice and her ‘focus, drama and clarity’ in performance, Rowan was a Young Artist at the International Opera Studio at the Berlin Staatsoper, and studied at both the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

During her time at the Berlin Staatsoper she sang the roles of **Zweite Dame** *Die Zauberflöte*, **Annina** *La Traviata*, **Kate Pinkerton** *Madama Butterfly*, **Der Trommler** *Der Kaiser von Atlantis*, **Hirt** *Tosca* and the title role in *Vanitas* at both the Berlin and Hamburg Staatsopers.

She recently sang **Wellgunde** *Das Rheingold* with the London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Vladimir Jurowski, and **Frau Grubach/Washerwoman** in the world premiere of *The Trial* by Philip Glass at the Linbury Studio Theatre, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

Other notable roles have included **Penelope** *Il ritorno d’Ulisse in patria* conducted Christian Curnyn, the title role in *Carmen* with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, **Cherubino** *Le Nozze di Figaro* for Welsh National Opera, **Sesto** *Giulio Cesare* with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment conducted Laurence Cummings, both **Cecilio** *Lucio Silla* and the title role in *Adriano in Siria* with Classical Opera, **Lola** *Cavalleria Rusticana* at the Barbican Centre, and covers of **Dorabella** *Così fan tutte*, **Hänsel** *Hänsel und Gretel*, **Sesto** *Giulio Cesare* and **Kitchen Boy** *Rusalka* for Glyndebourne Festival Opera, as well as **Lucretia** *The Rape of Lucretia* and **Mercedes** *Carmen*.

Her concert repertoire ranges from Schubert to Sciarrino. She performs regularly at the Wigmore Hall with The Prince Consort and collaborates often with leading baroque ensembles including the Dunedin Consort


and The King’s Consort. She has worked with conductors such as Alexander Vedernikov, Nicholas Collon, Christian Kluxen, Julien Salemkour, Leo Hussain, Alexander Soddy, André de Ridder and Omer Meir Wellber.

Of note also were her recent engagements to sing Mahler’s Symphony No.2 at the Barbican Centre, Mahler’s *Rückert-Lieder* with the Bath Symphony Orchestra, and Bach’s *Christmas Oratorio* with the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra.

Rowan has given recitals for Opéra de Lille, the Oxford Lieder Festival, Perth Festival of the Arts and Bath International Music Festival.

Recordings include mezzo soloist in the Dunedin Consort’s Gramophone Award-winning Mozart *Requiem* for Linn Records and Honegger’s *Le roi David* with the Junges Ensemble Berlin.

Rowan is currently a member of the ensemble at the Salzburger Landestheater where her roles in the last season have included **Lisetta** *Il mondo della luna*, **Mercedes** *Carmen*, **Zaide** *Il turco in Italia*, **Donna Elvira** *Don Giovanni*, and **Lureen** *Brokeback Mountain*. In the 16/17 season she sings the roles of **Idamante** *Idomenec*, the title role in **Orfeo**, and **Sandmännchen** *Hänsel und Gretel*, and **Hänsel** at the Felsenreitschule.

Other recent and future engagements include **Dido** *Dido and Aeneas* conducted by Trevor Pinnock, Mozart *Requiem* with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra and with the Dunedin Consort in Bremen and in Oviedo, and a recital for Salisbury International Music Festival. 

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