

# Zanda Švēde

Mezzo-Soprano



" Zanda Švēde as Carmen did not disappoint. That voice—that bottomless voice! It's a heavy mezzo with luxurious layers and some surprising color up top. It somehow resonates alternately in the depths of her chest, then her head—and still manages to project. Her first two arias also proved a wide range, and that she was embedding sensuality to spare into her Carmen."

**KCMetropolis, Sarah Tyrrell,  
25 April 2016**

" Zanda Švēde, in her Lyric Opera debut, played the gypsy with convincing flair. Her luscious voice was fruity, full and varied. Each aria was given a different color, from the flirtatious "Habanera" to the fateful "Card Aria."

**The Kansas City Star,  
Libby Hanssen, 24 April 2016**

Latvian mezzo, Zanda Švēde joins the ensemble at Oper Frankfurt this season and makes her house debut as Dryade *Ariadne auf Naxos*; later in the season she sings the title roles of Xerxes and Barrie Kosky's *Carmen*. She travels to Seattle Opera to sing further performances of *Carmen* in Paul Curren's production before the end of the 2018-19 season.

Celebrating a long and fruitful relationship with San Francisco Opera since joining its summer Merola Opera Program in 2013, Zanda became an Adler Fellow in Season 2014-15 and remained for three seasons, appearing on the main stage as Flora *La Traviata*, Tisbe *La Cenerentola*, Lena in the world premiere of Marco Tutino's *Two Women*, Alisa *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Rychtarka *Jenufa*, Third Lady *Die Zauberflöte*, Suzuki *Madama Butterfly*, Maddalena *Rigoletto*, Maid *The Makropulos Case*, and Handmaiden/The Flower in the world premiere of Bright Sheng's *Dream of the Red Chamber*.

Other principal guest highlights in the US include Zanda's debut at Palm Beach Opera as Suzuki, and Olga *Eugene Onegin* at Opera Idaho. She went on to cover Olga at Lyric Opera of Chicago and sang it in concert at North Carolina Opera. Other roles in Chicago at Lyric Opera include Grimgerde *Die Walküre* and Maddalena *Rigoletto*. She made her role and house debut in the title role *Carmen* at Lyric Opera of Kansas City, winning exceptional reviews.

Concert appearances include Zanda's debut with San Francisco Symphony in Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* and at Los Angeles Philharmonic Bernstein's *Mass* conducted by Gustavo Dudamel. She includes Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Liszt's *Missa Coronationalis*, Bach's *Weihnachtsoratorium*, Haydn's *Mass in*

*the time of War*, and Mozart's *Missa de Requiem* in her concert repertoire.

The artist sings with the leading conductors of our time, including Sir Andrew Davis, Nicola Luisotti, Marco Armiliato, Lawrence Foster, David Charles Abell and Leo Hussein. She also recently worked with Jiří Bělohlávek.

Miss Švēde studied at the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music in Riga where she sang excerpts from the title roles of *María de Buenos Aires* and Massenet's *Cléopâtre*, joined the Manhattan School of Music Summer Voice Festival in New York where she appeared as Endimione *La Calisto*, attended the Scuola Italia in Italy, and participated in the Tyrolean Opera Program in Austria.

---

EXCLUSIVE WORLDWIDE REPRESENTATION:  
Artist Manager: Deborah Sanders  
[deborah.sanders@rayfieldallied.com](mailto:deborah.sanders@rayfieldallied.com)  
Biography valid until 1 Sep 2019  
For updated versions please contact  
[nathan.murphy@rayfieldallied.com](mailto:nathan.murphy@rayfieldallied.com)