

# Zanda Švēde

Mezzo-Soprano



" Švēde, who was the lead on the day I saw 'Carmen,' almost vibrates in her intensity, her honeyed mezzo-soprano lithely moving back and forth between alluring and penetrative."

**The UW Daily, Blake Peterson, May 2019**

" 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-soprano, Zanda Švēde begins her second season with the ensemble at Oper Frankfurt where roles this season include Zenobia *Radamisto*, Sonyetka *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, the title role *Carmen* and The Electress *Der Prinz von Homburg*. In her native Latvia, she performs Wagner's *Wesendonck Lieder* with Sinfonietta Riga and travels to USA to sing further performances of *Carmen* at Pittsburgh Opera. In the UK she joins Royal Scottish National Orchestra for performances of Verdi *Requiem* conducted by Thomas Søndergård.

Last season at Oper Frankfurt she made her house debut as Dryade *Ariadne auf Naxos* and also sang title roles of *Xerxes* and Barrie Kosky's *Carmen*. To end the season she gave further performances of *Carmen* in Paul Curren's production at Seattle Opera.

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 *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 2020

For updated versions please contact

[nathan.murphy@rayfieldallied.com](mailto:nathan.murphy@rayfieldallied.com)