

Gemma Summerfield

Soprano



“The other star, primarily for vocal reasons, was the talented soprano Gemma Summerfield. Her heroic-toned Pamina continues to grow in stature, a bigger voice than customary today, perhaps, but one wielded with remarkable delicacy and musical insight, and her G minor aria was treasurable.”

Hugh Canning, The Times

British soprano Gemma Summerfield was awarded First Prize at the 2019 Concorso Lirico Internazionale di Portofino and is the winner of the 2018 Susan Chilcott Award for Singers as well as both First Prize and the Song Prize at the 2015 Kathleen Ferrier Awards. She won the Jean Meikle Prize for a Duo at the 2017 Wigmore Hall International Song Competition and was a finalist in the inaugural Glyndebourne Opera Cup in 2018.

In the 2021-22 season she makes her role debut as **Mimi** *La bohème* for Northern Ireland Opera and her house debut at Opéra national du Rhin as **Fiordiligi** *Così fan tutte*. She also appears in concert with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and at Wigmore Hall.

Recent operatic engagements include **Pamina** *The Magic Flute* and cover **Michal** *Saul* (Glyndebourne Festival Opera); **Nannetta** *Falstaff* and **Pamina** *The Magic Flute* (Scottish Opera); **Paula Jordan** in the European premiere of William Bolcom's *Dinner at Eight* (Wexford Festival Opera); **Fiordiligi** *Così fan tutte* (Bury Court Opera); **Barmherzigkeit** in Mozart's *Die Schuldigkeit des ersten Gebots*, **Hyacinthus** in Mozart's *Apollo et Hyacinthus* and Mozart's *Grabmusik* (all for Classical Opera); cover title role **Rodelinda** (English National Opera); **Gretel** *Hänsel und Gretel* (Royal College of Music International Opera School); **Ginevra** *Ariodante* (RCM / London Handel Festival); **Rosalinde** *Die Fledermaus*, **First Lady** *Die Zauberflöte* and **La Chauve-Souris/Une Pastourelle** *L'enfant et les sortilèges* (all RCM); **Berenice** *Il Vologeso* (Classical Opera at the Cadogan Hall); and **Donna Elvira** *Don Giovanni* (Verbier Festival Academy and Euphonia).

On the concert platform, her recent highlights include her debuts with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, and the Hallé; Bach's *B Minor Mass* (The Bach Choir); Beethoven's *Symphony No.9* (Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne); Bach's *Magnificat*, *B Minor Mass* and *St John Passion* (all for the Al Bustan Festival, Lebanon); Fauré's *Messe Basse* in Paris; Orff's *Carmina Burana* (Glasgow City Halls); Mendelssohn's *Elijah* (Holy Trinity, Sloane Square); Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* (RCM); and Bach's *Magnificat in D Major* and *Christmas Cantata* (Dunkeld Cathedral). Also an active recitalist, her recent appearances include recitals at the Oxford Lieder Festival, Leeds Lieder, Cambridge Summer Music; Stratford-upon-Avon and London's Wigmore Hall.

Summerfield has taken part in masterclasses with Barbara Frittoli, Leo Nucci, Richard Bonyngé, Sarah Connolly, Dame Felicity Palmer; Edith Wiens; Susan Bullock; Patricia MacMahon; Joan Rodgers; and renowned accompanists Malcolm Martineau, Roger Vignoles, Jonathan Papp and Anne Le Bozec.

Summerfield studied at the Royal College of Music International Opera School, the Georg Solti Accademia and the Verbier Festival Academy. She is a Yeoman of the Worshipful Company of Musicians and a recipient of their Silver Medal.

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