

Sunhae Im

Soprano



“A splendidly bright soprano”
New York Times

Berlin-based Korean soprano Sunhae Im is one of the world's leading interpreters of Baroque repertoire and the music of Mozart and his contemporaries, and mesmerizes equally in repertoire of the 19th and 20th centuries.

She has worked with conductors such as René Jacobs (Bach's *St Matthew Passion*, *St John Passion*, *Christmas Oratorio*, *Mass in B minor*, *Trauer-Ode*; Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo*; Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*, *Septem verba a Christo*; Handel's *Agrippina*, *Orlando*, *Il trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno*, *La Resurrezione*, *Aci Galatea e Polifemo*; Haydn's *Orlando Paladino*; Gassman's *L'Opera Seria*; Mozart's *Idomeneo*, *La finta giardiniera*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, *Così fan tutte*, *The Magic Flute*, *La clemenza di Tito*), Manfred Honeck (Mahler's *Symphony No. 2*, *Symphony No. 4*; Poulenc's *Dialogues of the Carmelites*; *St John Passion*; *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Idomeneo*, Mozart's *Requiem*), Fabio Biondi (Handel's *Silla*, *Messiah*; Vivaldi's *Bajazet*; Scarlatti's *Clori Dorino e Amore*), Myung-Whun Chung (*Idomeneo*, Mozart's *Requiem*), Sigiswald Kuijken (*Christmas Oratorio*, *St John Passion*; Haydn's concert arias), Philippe Herreweghe (Mozart's concert arias, *Requiem*; Mendelssohn's concert arias), William Christie (Rameau's *Les Indes galantes*; Charpentier's *Les arts florissants*, *La descente d'Orphée aux enfers*; *Messiah*; *The Seasons*), Riccardo Chailly (*St John Passion*, *St Matthew Passion*), Kent Nagano (Monteverdi's *Il combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda*), Herbert Blomstedt (*Paukenmesse*; C. M. Weber's *Jubelmesse*; Naumann's *Vater unser*), Frans Brüggen (Mozart's *Mass in C minor*; *St John Passion*), Diego Fasolis (*La finta giardiniera*; CPE Bach's *Magnificat*; Handel's *Gloria*), Iván Fischer (*Don Giovanni*), Ton Koopman (*Messiah*), Zubin Mehta (Mahler's *Symphony No. 2*), and Marek Janowski (*Paulus*).

She has performed with companies including La Scala Opera, Berliner Staatsoper, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Opéra National de Paris, Oper Frankfurt, La Monnaie, Staatsoper Hamburg, Staatstheater Stuttgart, and Korea National Opera and with leading orchestras and ensembles such as Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin, Freiburg Baroque Orchestra, Europa Galante, New York Philharmonic, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, DSO Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Munich Philharmonic Orchestra, Les Arts Florissants, Academy of Ancient Music, Collegium Vocale Ghent, and B'Rock Ghent; and at renowned festivals such as the Salzburg Festival, Verbier Festival, Mostly Mozart Festival, Edinburgh International Festival, Rheingau Musik Festival, Haydn International Festival; and venues such as Vienna Musikverein, Lincoln Center, the Concertgebouw, Köln Philharmonie, Salle Pleyel, De Doelen Rotterdam, and Bozar Brussels.

Her large and critically acclaimed discography includes her solo album *Orfeo[s]* (Elly Ameling Prize, Académie du Disque Lyrique, 2015); 2019 solo album *Didone Abbandonata* (nominated in 3 categories for Opus Klassik 2020); *Agrippina* (BBC Music Magazine Award, 2012, nominated for Grammy Awards, 2012); *La clemenza di Tito* (nominated for Grammy Awards, 2006); Fauré's *Requiem* (Echo Klassik Award, 2012); Mahler's *4th Symphony* (ICMA, 2012); *The Magic Flute* (BBC Music Magazine Award, 2011); *Idomeneo* (2009 Annual Award, the German Record Critics' Award); *St. Matthew Passion*, *St. John Passion*, *Mass in B minor*, and *Christmas Oratorio*; and Haydn's *Creation*. A new opera album of

Haydn's *L'isola disabitata* (Deserted Island), recorded with Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin, was chosen for the 4/2021 Long List by The German Record Critics' Award (Preis der deutschen Schallplattenkritik). Following *Didone Abbandonata*, she is preparing another baroque album with solo cantatas by J. S. Bach and G. P. Telemann.

As a recitalist, her repertoire includes songs by Schubert, Schumann, Fauré, Debussy, Brahms, Mahler, Bernstein, Barber, Berg, and many others. Her first Art Songs recording *Erwin Schulhoff: Sämtliche Lieder* (Complete Lieder) was released in 2020. It was a hit with critics and received prizes such as La Clef by ResMusica and Quarterly Choice of German Record Critics' Award 2021, and was nominated for German Record Critics' Annual Award 2021 and International Classical Music Award 2022. Following the Schulhoff album, she plans to record art songs by Erich J. Woff.

As well as in her core repertoire, audiences in Korea know her as the voice behind “Will Be Back”, the hugely popular original soundtrack for drama series *Moon Lovers – Scarlet Heart Ryeo*, and as heroine Christine Daaé in the musical *Phantom*, which was also released as a film. During lockdown she recorded an album of children songs *Spring in My Hometown* with the Korean Symphony Orchestra.

Recent seasons have included *La finta giardiniera* (La Scala Opera's Shanghai tour with Diego Fasolis); *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, and *Così fan tutte*, with the Freiburg Baroque Orchestra and René Jacobs; Brahms' *German Requiem* with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and Manfred Honeck, and with Musikkollegium Winterthur and Thomas Zehetmair; Handel's *Silla* at the Enescu Festival with Europa Galante and Fabio Biondi; Handel's *Serse* at Festival D'opéra Baroque & Romantique De Beaune with Orchestre Accademia Bizantina and Ottavio Dantone; Haydn's *Creation* in the stage production by La Fura dels Baus for the inaugurations of the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, the National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts in Taiwan, and the Incheon Culture & Arts Center in Korea; Mahler's *Symphony No. 4* and Britten's *Les Illuminations* (with the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra and Osmo Vänskä), and Bach cantatas and concertos with Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin.

Sunhae Im was born in Korea and studied with Lokyung Pak at Seoul National University and with Roland Hermann at Hochschule für Musik Karlsruhe. In 1997 she was awarded the Grand Prix in the Korean Voice Competition, the Second Prize in the Dong-A Music Competition, and the Grand Prix in the Korea Schubert Society–Munhwa Ilbo Competition (Seoul). She won the Second Prize and the Audience Prize in the International Schubert Competition in Osaka and Tokyo in the same year and was awarded as a finalist in the Queen Elisabeth Competition in Brussels in 2000. Sunhae made her sensational concert debut with Philippe Herreweghe in 1999 and her opera debut at the Frankfurt Opera in 2000. She was a member of the Hannover State Opera between 2001 and 2003 before she became a freelancer.

Valid for use until 1 September 2022
For updated versions please contact
info@rayfieldallied.com