

Ilse Eerens
Soprano



Belgian soprano Ilse Eerens began her vocal studies at the age of 14 at the Lemmens Institute in Louvain/Belgium. She then joined the New Opera Academy in The Netherlands and graduated with an MA degree, as a student of Jard van Nes.

Most recent engagements for Ms Eerens include a return to Theater an der Wien as Matilda in Rossini's *Elisabetta, regina d'Inghilterra*, conducted by Jean-Christoph Spinosi, to the Opera de Lyon as La Vierge in Honegger's *Jeanne au Bûcher*, to the Theater Klagenfurt as Pamina, to Opera Narodowa in Warsaw in the title role of Hosokawa's *Matsukaze* in Sasha Waltz' internationally celebrated production, Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem* with the Orchestre des Champs-Élysées under Philippe Herreweghe, Mahler's 4th Symphony with the Dutch Radio Philharmonic, Handel's *Israel in Egypt* with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra under Peter Dijkstra, Mendelssohn's *Lobgesang* with the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra under Kazushi Ono, his *Paulus* with the MDR Sinfonieorchester, Beethoven's 9th Symphony with La Verdi in Milan, a recording of Hosokawa's *Nach dem Sturm* with the Orquesta Sinfonia de Euskadi and Jun Maerkl, and concerts at the Takefu Festival in Japan with works by Schubert and Berg.

Other recent highlights are the lead role of Marianne in HK Gruber's *Geschichten aus dem Wienerwald* at the Bregenzer Festspiele and Theater an der Wien, the title-role in Janáček's *Cunning Little Vixen* at the Opéra National de Lyon, her debut at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden as Kitchenboy in *Rusalka*, her role debut as Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte* at the Stadttheater Klagenfurt, Despina in *Così fan tutte* and Susanna *Le Nozze di Figaro*, both with the Orchestra of the 18th Century, Celia in *Lucio Silla* with the Insula orchestra in Versailles, Aix-en-Provence, Theater an der Wien and the Philharmonie de Paris, the soprano part in *Lady Sarashina* by Péter Eötvös at Opera Narodowa/Teatr Wielki in Warsaw and at the Opéra National de Lyon and the world premiere of Toshio Hosokawa's *Nach dem Sturm* with the Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, with concerts

in Tokyo, Luxembourg and at the Philharmonie Berlin.

In the 2017/18 season, Ms Eerens will return to the Opéra de Lyon as Tschanghaitang in Zemlinsky's *Der Kreidekreis*, to La Monnaie as Celia in *Lucio Silla*, to the Takefu Festival for works by Schubert, Mozart, Bruckner, Mahler and to the MDR Sinfonieorchester Leipzig for Mendelssohn's *Lobgesang*. She will also give house debuts at the New National Theatre Tokyo in Sasha Waltz' production of *Matsukaze* and at the Salzburger Festspiele as First Lady in *Die Zauberflöte*.

A regular guest at La Monnaie in Brussels, her roles for this house have included Oscar in *Un ballo in maschera*, Jemmy in a concert version of *Guillaume Tell* (also at the Concertgebouw Amsterdam), Noémie in Massenet's *Cendrillon*, Antigone in Enescu's *Oedipe*, Amanda in Ligeti's *Le Grand Macabre*, a part she has also performed at the Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires, Teatro dell'Opera di Roma and at the Adelaide Music Festival in Australia.

Much in demand as a concert singer, Ilse Eerens' repertoire encompasses Bach's *Passions, Oratorios and Cantatas*, Handel's *Messiah*, Fauré's *Requiem*, Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*, Haydn's *Die Jahreszeiten*, Mozart's *Requiem, Davide Penitente* and *Great Mass in c-minor*, Poulenc's *Stabat Mater*, Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony*, Honegger's *Le roi David*, Mahler's 2nd and 4th Symphonies, Dvořák's *Requiem* and *Stabat Mater*, which she also recorded with Philippe Herreweghe. The latter was awarded "Record of the Month" by Gramophone Magazine.

She has appeared with many leading orchestras, such as the Münchner Rundfunkorchester, Orchestre des Champs-Élysées, Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra, Dutch Radio Orchestra, Orchestre National de Lille, Brussels Philharmonic, Royal Flemish Philharmonic and the Orquestra Sinfónica Portuguesa and conductors such as Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Hartmut Haenchen, Paolo Olmi, Michael Boder, Michael Schonwandt, Kenneth Montgomery, Mark Wigglesworth, Jaap van Zweden, Frans Bruggen and Evelino Pidò.

Awards include the Arleen Auger prize in the International Vocal Competition in 's-Hertogenbosch in the Netherlands, where she was the only the finalist who excelled in all the three categories of Opera, Oratorio and Lieder, and the 3rd prize at the ARD Musikwettbewerb 2006.

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