

A past winner of both the prestigious Kathleen Ferrier Award and the ROSL Singing Prize, and a distinguished graduate of the Royal Academy of Music, soprano **Gillian Keith** made her Royal Opera, Covent Garden debut as Zerbinetta in Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos* and has gone on to repeat the role with great success at Ópera de Oviedo and Welsh National Opera. Other operatic appearances include Tytania in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at ROH and at English National Opera, Nannetta *Falstaff* and Pretty Polly in Birtwistle's *Punch and Judy*, both for ENO, and Pretty Polly in Geneva. She has sung Lucinda in Conti's *Don Chisciotte* for Netherlands Opera under Rene Jacobs, Tiny in Britten's *Paul Bunyan* for the Bregenz Festival, Elmira in Opera North's *Croesus*, Ginevra in Handel's *Ariodante* in Halle, Philine in Thomas' *Mignon*, and Iphis in Handel's *Jeptha*, both for Buxton Festival, The Woodbird in Scottish Opera's *Siegfried*, and Poppea in Basel and in Boston.

Concert performances include Oliver Knussen's *Symphony No. 2* at the BBC Proms, *Exsultate, jubilate* with the Royal Northern Sinfonia, the Angel in Handel's *La Resurrezione* with Ars Lyrica Houston, Bach's *St Matthew Passion* and Mozart's *C Minor Mass* with Handel & Haydn Society, Boston, Handel's *Messiah* and *Silete venti* with The Sixteen in Hong Kong, Sydney Opera House and New Zealand, and *The Songbook* with Birmingham Contemporary Music Group at Wigmore Hall. She has presented her original scripted recital *Debussy And His Muse* at Wilton's Music Hall, Buxton Festival, and Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Recent appearances include the title role in H.K. Gruber's *Gloria: A Pigtail* at Royal Opera's Linbury Studio Theatre, Buxton Festival and Bregenz Festival, Bach solo cantatas with Northern Chamber Orchestra, Kurtág's *Scenes from a Novel* with the Psappha Ensemble, Handel's *Messiah* in Washington National Cathedral, Bach's *St Matthew Passion* (Handel and Haydn Society, Boston), Miss Wordsworth in Britten's *Albert Herring* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra at The Barbican, the role of Ruth Ellis in Tom Randle's new opera *Love Me To Death* at The Barbican's Pit Theatre, and the premiere of works by David Matthews and Cecilia McDowall at the Presteigne Festival. Her original scripted recital '*The Formidable Frau*', based on the wife of Richard Strauss was received with enthusiastic praise at the 2016 Buxton Festival. This season's and future projects include performances and a multi-disc recording of Bach solo cantatas with Armonico Consort, as well as concerts of Beethoven's *Christ on the Mount of Olives* at the National Concert Hall, Dublin, Handel's *Messiah* at Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, and Mozart's *Great Mass in C Minor* at the Three Choirs Festival.

She has recorded the role of Zerbinetta in *Ariadne auf Naxos* with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra under Sir Richard Armstrong, as well as orchestral songs by Dallapiccola, Nielsen's 3rd Symphony, and Casella's *Le convent sur l'eau* with Gianandrea Noseda and the BBC Philharmonic, all for Chandos. Other recordings include Handel's *Gloria* and Bach Cantatas with John Eliot Gardiner, Handel's *Messiah* and Mozart's *C Minor Mass* with Harry Christophers, and Handel's *Nine German Arias* with Florilegium. Her recital discs include Schubert Lieder on Marquis, and with pianist Simon Lepper *Debussy: Early Songs*, and *Debussy Songs For His Muse* for Deux-Elles, as well as *Gillian Keith - bei Strauss* for Champs Hill Records.

www.gilliankeithsoprano.com