

# Yvonne Howard

## Mezzo Soprano



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Yvonne Howard studied at the Royal Northern College of Music and performs regularly with all the major UK opera companies. Early roles included the title role in *La Cenerentola* with English Touring Opera, *Marcellina Le Nozze di Figaro* with both Glyndebourne Festival and Touring Opera, and *Fricka* and *Waltraute* in the highly acclaimed City of Birmingham Touring Opera *Ring Saga*. She made her debut with the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as *Mercedes Carmen*, and subsequent roles there have included *Karolka Jenufa*, *Marcellina*, 2nd & 3rd Lady *Die Zauberflöte*, *Suzuki Madama Butterfly*, *Cornelia Giulio Cesare*, *Berta Il Barbière di Siviglia*, *Flower Maiden* and the *Heavenly Voice Parsifal*, *Ludmilla The Bartered Bride*, *Second Norn Der Ring des Nibelungen*, *Leonore Fidelio* and *Mother Hänsel und Gretel*.

Engagements postponed or cancelled due to Covid include *Mrs Grose The Turn of the Screw* (Royal Opera), *Marcellina The Marriage of Figaro* (ENO) and *Ruth The Pirates of Penzance* (Charles Court Opera).

Recent and future engagements include *Madame Larina Eugene Onegin*, *Mistress Quickly Falstaff* and *Ludmila The Bartered Bride* (Garsington Opera), *Lady Sophy Utopia* and *Duchess Gondoliers* (Scottish Opera), *Mrs Grose The Turn of the Screw* (Northern Ireland Opera), *Rosa Mamai L'arlesiana*, *Norma* and *Ruth The Pirates of Penzance* (Opera Holland Park), *Caesonia Caligula* (English National Opera and Teatro Colón, Buenos Aires), *Lady Billows Albert Herring* (Buxton Festival Opera), *Marcellina The Marriage of Figaro*, *Queen of the Fairies Iolanthe*, *Katisha The Mikado*, *Berta The Barber of Seville* (English National Opera), *Spring Beauty Snow Maiden*, *Fricka Das Rheingold* and *Die Walküre*, *Auntie Peter Grimes* (Opera North), *Nettie Carousel* (Opera North and The Barbican, London), *Mother in the British premiere of Dove's Monster in the Maze* (LSO at the Barbican and in 2020 at The Grange Festival), *Dream of Gerontius* (Lisbon), the title role in *Holst's Savitri* with the CBSO and with Choros Chamber Choir, *Bersi Andrea Chenier* and *Widow The Oprichnik* (Chelsea Opera Group), *Beethoven's 9th Symphony* with the BBCSO at Dubai Opera House and *Gilbert & Sullivan Gala Concerts* with Tarantara Productions.

Further UK appearances include *Verdi's Lady Macbeth*, *Eboli Don Carlos*, *Tosca*, *Maddalena Rigoletto*, *Evadne Troilus and Cressida*, *Meg Page Falstaff*, *Auntie Peter Grimes*, *Gertrude Romeo and Juliet*,

Mother in Dove's *Swanhunter*, Mrs Grose *Turn of the Screw* and Hippolyta *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Opera North), Amastris *Xerxes*, Meg Page, Berta, Third Lady, Second Norn, Madam Larina, Marcellina and The Innkeeper *Boris Godunov* (ENO), Mother *Hänsel und Gretel* and Mademoiselle Paturelle *Vert-Vert* (Garsington), Norma (English Touring Opera), Goffredo *Rinaldo* (Grange Park Opera), Amneris *Aida* (Royal Albert Hall), Laura *La Gioconda*, Sara Roberto *Devereaux* and Leonore *Fidelio* (Opera Holland Park), Dejanira *Hercules*, Meg Page *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Mab *The Fair Maid of Perth*, Mrs Noye Noye's *Fludde* and Estelle/Emerance in *Messenger's Veronique* (Buxton Festival), the title role in Cherubini's *Medee* (Cadogan Hall) and Irene in Donizetti's *Belisario* (Queen Elizabeth Hall), both with Chelsea Opera Group, and Myrtle *Knight Crew* (Glyndebourne).

Engagements abroad have included *Xerxes* in Sao Paolo, Brazil, *Die Walküre* in Paris and Nantes, *Falstaff* and Suzuki *Madama Butterfly* in Tel Aviv, *Eduige Rodelinda* with Opera Theatre Company throughout Ireland, the UK and in New York, *Azucena Il Trovatore* in Ireland, *Assunta The Saint of Bleecker Street* at the Spoleto Festival, the title role in *Telemaco* with the English Bach Festival in London and Athens, *Irene Theodora* in Strasbourg and *Azucena Il Trovatore* with Den Jyske Opera, Denmark.

Concert and recital work has taken Yvonne to Japan, France, Spain, Scandinavia, Switzerland, USA and, of course, throughout Great Britain. She has received great critical acclaim for, in particular, her interpretation of the Angel in Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius*, Verdi's *Requiem* and the song cycles of Mahler and Berlioz as well as for her performance as Marilyn Klinghoffer in the TV film of John Adams' *The Death of Klinghoffer* and in Roxanna Panufnik's *Beastly Tales* with City of London Sinfonia. Recordings include Sieglinde *Die Walküre* with Sir Mark Elder (Hallé), the *Sweet Swan of Avon* (Meridian), *Messiah* (Arte Nova Classics), Walton's *Troilus & Cressida*, Moussorgsky's *Boris Godunov* and Smetana's *The Bartered Bride* (Chandos).