

Sara Fulgoni

The outstanding British Mezzo Sara Fulgoni has performed at the major opera and concert venues of the world in a huge variety of repertoire, all to critical acclaim. The full, rich and lustrous quality of her voice, as well as her remarkable stage presence, have distinguished her operatic performances, and Bizet's *Carmen* has become a foundation of her work. She has sung the role for Santa Fe Opera, Toulouse (under Michel Plasson), the Palau de les Arts Valencia (under Lorin Maazel), Geneva Opera, Welsh National Opera, English National Opera and at the Beijing Music Festival, where she became the first western interpreter of the role to be presented in the capital of China since the Cultural Revolution.

Sara created the title role in the world premiere of Tobias Picker's opera *Thérèse Raquin* at Dallas Opera (also recorded for Chandos) and Nicholas Lens' *Shellshock, A Requiem of War* at La Monnaie in Brussels. She has sung much of the great mezzo repertoire, beginning with the baroque and classical heroines and now moving into the dramatic roles. Notable appearances include Judith *Bluebeard's Castle* with the Canadian Opera Company, Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona, Toulouse and Welsh National Opera; the Sorceress in *Dido And Aeneas* at La Scala and the Royal Opera House under Christopher Hogwood (Opus Arte DVD); Maddalena in *Rigoletto* at the Royal Opera House, La Monnaie, Opera National du Rhin and English National Opera; Penelope in *Il Ritorno d'Ulisse In Patria* with the Bayerische Staatsoper, the Royal Danish Opera, Geneva Opera and Welsh National Opera; Juno in *Semele* at Opernhaus Zürich and De Vlaamse Opera; Baba the Turk in *The Rake's Progress* in Rome with Daniele Gatti and at the Teatro Comunale di Bologna; Beatrice in *Beatrice Et Benedict* at De Nederlandse Opera and with the Welsh National Opera. Other highlights include Hansel in *Hansel and Gretel* and Amando in *Le Grand Macabre* with San Francisco Opera; the title role in *The Rape Of Lucretia* for Vara Radio in Amsterdam, De Vlaamse Opera and for Radio France; Diana in *La Calisto* under Rene Jacobs in Montpellier, Lyon and Salzburg; Marguerite in *La Damnation De Faust* with the Brooklyn Academy of Music in New York; Orfeo in *Orfeo ed Euridice* in La Coruna and Valladolid; Waltraute in *Götterdämmerung* with De Vlaamse Opera and English National Opera and Kundry in *Parsifal* for Welsh National Opera conducted by Vladimir Jurowski.

A committed concert artist, Sara has worked with Vladimir Ashkenazy, Riccardo Chailly, the late Richard Hickox, Kurt Masur, Riccardo Muti, Josep Pons, Jukka-Pekka Saraste and the late Giuseppe Sinopoli. She has sung both *Mahler Symphony No. 8* and *Urlicht* from *Das Knaben Wunderhorn* with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra under Riccardo Chailly, both of which were also recorded by Decca. She performed John Adams' *El Nino* in concert with the Flanders Philharmonic Orchestra. In recital Sara has appeared at the Concertgebouw, Wigmore Hall, the Montreux-Vevey Festival and in the Chatelet's Midis-Musicaux series.

Her many recordings include the Cherubini *Mass In D Minor* with Riccardo Muti at La Scala for EMI, *Suor Angelica* for EMI under Antonio Pappano, *Elijah* for Decca under Paul Daniel after performances at the Edinburgh Festival, Handel's *Dixit Dominus* under Marc Minkowski for Archiv, Ned Rorem's *The Santa Fe Songs* with Chamber Domaine for Black Box and *Welcome To The Voice* with Sting for DG. She also took part in the acclaimed television series entitled 'The Genius of Beethoven' for the BBC.

Sara sings regularly with both Welsh National Opera where roles have included Le Prince Charmant *Cendrillon*, Orlovsky *Die Fledermaus*, Fenena *Nabucco* and also Grange Park

Opera where she has sung the title role in *Rinaldo*, Adalgisa in *Norma*, Clairon in *Capriccio*, Paulina in *Queen Of Spades*, Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly*, Mere Marie in *Dialogues Des Carmélites*, Brangäne in *Tristan* and Dulcinee in *Don Quichotte*. Other engagements have included Duchess of York in *Richard III* at the Opera National du Rhin, '3 Abschied' – a dance project by choreographer Anne Teresa De Keersmaecker based on Gustav Mahler's song Abschied commissioned by La Monnaie with following performances in Lille, Theater an der Wien, Japan, Paris and Lisbon, Schumann's Faust Scenes at the Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona, Emilia in *Otello* Teatro Petruzzelli, Bari, title role in Rossini's *Otello* in concert performances at the Buxton Festival, Fricka in *Die Walküre* at the St Endellion Festival in Cornwall, Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire* at the Penarth Chamber Music Festival and Dalila in *Samson et Dalila* at Grange Park.

In recent seasons, she performed Marfa in *Khovanshchina* at Welsh National Opera, Duchess of York in Batistelli's *Richard III* at Teatro La Fenice, Beroe in Hans Werner Henze's *Die Bassariden* with Orquesta Nacional de España in Madrid under Kent Nagano and at the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, *Mahler Symphony No.3* under Andrew Litton with the Bergen Philharmonic, Brangäne in *Tristan* at Grange Park, Forester's Wife in *The Cunning Little Vixen* at La Monnaie, and Fricka in *Die Walküre* for Grange Park Opera's inaugural season at West Horsley Place. She has also appeared in a recital at Haileybury where she gave the premiere performance of a new song cycle by Ben Parry.

In the 2018/19 season Sara performed Ulrica in *Un ballo in maschera* and The Mother in a semi-staged version of Dallapiccola's *Il prigioniero* with Welsh National Opera. Sara also performed in Nicholas Lens' Shell Shock, A Requiem of War with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio-France at Cité de la Musique. The performance marked 100 years since the 1918 armistice, was broadcasted live on Arte TV and is to be released on DVD by LGMT productions.

The 2019/20 season will see Sara perform in a Mahler Symphony Cycle with the Taipei Symphony Orchestra at the National Concert Hall in Taipei conducted by Eliahu Inbal; *Elijah* with the Royal Northern Sinfonia at Leeds Town Hall conducted by Simon Wright; *Dream of Gerontius* with the Tonhalle Orchestra conducted by Robert Trevino and Mahler 3 with the Norwich Philharmonic in the Norfolk and Norwich Festival.

As Mrs. Quickly in Verdi's "Falstaff" she was heard at Grange Park Opera in London in June 2021, and in the summer of 2022 her artistic career took her to Venice (La Fenice), where she sang the role of Auntie (Britten "P.Grimes"), staged by Paull Curran and conducted by Juraj Valcuha.

A graduate of the Royal Northern College of Music, where she was supported by the Peter Moores Foundation, Sara Fulgoni is the recipient of numerous awards including second prize in the Kathleen Ferrier Awards in 1993.