

KAREN FOSTER soprano

For her debut as Isolde in *Tristan und Isolde* in a new production with Den Norske Opera (Norwegian Opera). Of her performance, *Kultur-og-underholdning* declared, "She internalized the strength of Wagner's character," while *Dagbladet* wrote, "Karen Foster as Isolde is an elegant dramatic soprano," and *Aftenposten* observed, "Karen Foster's Isolde fills the palette of emotions with conviction and flexibility."

Ms. Foster recently performed *Der Ring des Nibelungen* in her Grand Théâtre de Genève debut, singing Helmwige in *Die Walküre* and Third Norn in *Götterdämmerung*, and covering Brünnhilde; and returned to the role of Gerhilde in *Die Walküre* with Bayerische Staatsoper, under the baton of Maestro Kirill Petrenko, and with Dallas Symphony Orchestra. She sang debuts with Columbus Symphony Orchestra and Canton Symphony Orchestra as soloist in Verdi's *Requiem*, and with Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra as Isolde in *Tristan und Isolde*.

An accomplished Wagnerian singer, Ms. Foster has performed Sieglinde in Act I of *Die Walküre* and the *Wesendonck Lieder* with Adelphi Orchestra; Gerhilde with Bayerische Staatsoper and in a recorded performance with Hong Kong Philharmonic (Naxos); Helmwige with Düsseldorf's Deutsche Oper am Rhein; and as guest soloist at the German Embassy in the Immolation Scene from *Götterdämmerung*, presented by the Wagner Society of Washington D.C., with whom she has also performed excerpts from Mahler's Symphony No. 8 and *Das klagende Lied* at the Kennedy Center.

Other highlights include a recording of Schleppträgerin in *Elektra* with WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln, under the baton of Semyon Bychkov (Profil Medien); the title role of *Turandot* with New Rochelle Opera; Leonora in *Il trovatore* with Westfield Symphony Orchestra; and Verdi's *Requiem* with New York Choral Society. Ms. Foster has sung on the roster of Lyric Opera of Chicago for the *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, *Lohengrin*, and Strauss' *Die Frau ohne Schatten*. Her repertoire also includes Giorgetta in *Il tabarro*, Ariadne in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, and Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*.

Ms. Foster previously won Third Prize in the Lauritz Melchoir International Singing Competition. She is an alumna of Santa Fe Opera's Apprentice Program, where she performed segments from Verdi's *Macbeth*, and Wagner Theater at Mannes, where she sang Wellgunde in *Das Rheingold* and Helmwige.