

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Sian Meinir

Mezzo-Soprano

Artist Manager: Rhian Williams
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Welsh mezzo-soprano Sian Meinir has over 20 years' performing experience with some of the UK's foremost opera companies. Her striking contralto timbre allows her an extensive repertoire ranging from Verdi, Wagner, Janáček and Schoenberg to character roles and contemporary works.

Roles for Welsh National Opera include **Iseult of the White Hands** *Le Vin Herbé*; **Kate Pinkerton** *Madama Butterfly* (Julian Smith's extended edition); **Enrichetta** *I Puritani*; **Margaret** *Wozzeck*; **Solo Voice** *Moses und Aron*; **Annina** *La Traviata*; **Inez** *Il Trovatore*; **Giovanna** *Rigoletto*; **Rychtarka** *Jenufa*; **Awen** *Gair ar Grawd* (World Premiere), which was recorded for TV and broadcast on S4C. Covers for WNO include **Mary** *Der Fliegende Hollander*; **Sick Woman** *Moses und Aron*; **Third Lady** *Magic Flute*; **Bird** *The Sacrifice*; **Grandmother** *Jenufa*; **Mamma Lucia** *Cavalleria Rusticana*. She has performed **Suzuki** *Madame Butterfly* Scenes for WNO Creative in London and recorded **Zena** *Katya Kabanova* with WNO for Chandos.

Whilst at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, she performed **Bridesmaid** *Le Nozze di Figaro*; **Slave** *Salome*; **Noble Orphan** *Der Rosenkavalier* and **Solo Voice** in the World Premiere of Twyla Tharp's ballet, *Mr Wordly Wise*.

Sian graduated with B.A.Hons degree from the University of Wales, Bangor, subsequently gaining a postgraduate Dip.RAM and LRAM from the Royal Academy of Music, London. She made her début with The Opera Factory as **Baba the Turk** in *The Rake's Progress* at the Purcell Room, Southbank Centre and Teatro Municipal, Lisbon. In the same year, she sang at the Musical nel Chiosstro Opera Festival, Batignano, Tuscany in a production of Bernstein's *Candide* under the direction of Graham Vick.

Solo concert work highlights include *Elijah* in a performance with Sir Bryn Terfel, conducted by Richard Hickox, *Wesendonck Lieder* at the Wales Millennium Centre with WNO, *Das Lied von der Erde* and *Ruckert Lieder* at Llandaff Cathedral. Sian made her Royal Albert Hall début as a soloist in 'The Best of Welsh' concert. She has given recitals in all the major cities of South Africa as well as performances of the *Messiah* in Paris and Guernsey, Rossini's *Stabat Mater* at Montbotbourg Abbey, *Mass in B minor* at St. Martin's in the Field and Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Bach's *Magnificat* at St David's Cathedral. Other concert work includes Schumann's *Frauenliebe und leben* and *Maria Stuart* lieder cycles at Bangor and Southwark Cathedrals.

This season, Sian will be performing the roles of **Dr. Heinkel/ Alfana/ Old Woman of Bala** in the world premiere of Opra Cymru's *Wythnos yng Nghymru Fydd* by Gareth Glyn. Future engagements include further performances of her one-woman show, *Y Danbaid Fendigaid Ann*, depicting the work of hymn-writer Ann Griffiths.

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