

# ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

## Leah-Marian Jones

Mezzo-Soprano

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Long established on the stages of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; English National Opera; Scottish Opera; Welsh National Opera and Opera North, Welsh mezzo-soprano Leah-Marian Jones has made guest appearances at The Metropolitan Opera, New York; Théâtre du Châtelet; Angers-Nantes Opéra and Opéra de Rennes, France.

A graduate of the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester and the National Opera Studio, London, Leah-Marian Jones was a Company Principal at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden for eight years where she sang over thirty roles including **Tisbe** in *La Cenerentola*; **Dorabella** in *Così fan tutte*; **Maddalena** in *Rigoletto*; **Mercedes** in *Carmen*; **Annina** in *Der Rosenkavalier*; **Flosshilde** in *Das Rheingold* and *Götterdämmerung*.

Engagements as a freelance singer include the Title Role in *Carmen*; **Maddalena** in *Rigoletto*; **Orestes** in *La Belle Helene*; **Sonyetka** in *Lady Macbeth of Mzensk*; **Rossweisse** in *Valkyrie* and **Hippolyta** in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for English National Opera; **Meg Page** in *Falstaff*; **Dorabella** in *Così fan tutte*; **Hänsel** and **Witch** in *Hänsel Und Gretel*; **Annina** in *Der Rosenkavalier*; **Page** in *Salome*; **Bersi** in *Andrea Chenier*; **Baba the Turk** in *The Rake's Progress*; **Jezebaba** in *Rusalka* and **Rossweisse**, **Flosshilde** and **Norn** in Wagner's Ring for Scottish Opera; **Sara** in *Roberto Devereux*; **Hedwige** in *Guillaume Tell*; **Amenofi** in *Mosè in Egitto*; **Lola** in *Cavalleria Rusticana*; **Maddalena** in *Rigoletto*; **Kabanicha** in *Kátya Kabanová* and **Genevieve** in *Pelléas et Mélisande*, which included performances at the 2018 Hong Kong International Arts Festival for Welsh National Opera; **Zaida** in *Il Turco in Italia* and **Polly Peachum** in *The Beggars Opera* for the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; **Maddalena** and **Giovanna** in *Rigoletto* for Opera North; **Frederica** in *Luisa Miller* for Chelsea Opera; **Carmen** in *La Tragedie de Carmen* for English Touring Opera and **Hippolyta** in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Aldeburgh Festival.

She made her American début as **Junon** in *Platée* in Berkeley, San Francisco and subsequently performed **The Young Doctor** in *Palestrina* at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. In Europe she has sung **Flosshilde** in *Götterdämmerung* at the Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris; **Meg Page** in *Falstaff* and **Flora** in *La Traviata* for Angers-Nantes Opéra and Opéra de Rennes; **Kabanicha** in *Katya Kabanova* with Opéra National de Lorraine and **Hippolyta** in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Teatro Massimo, Palermo.

Recent concerts include a performance at the Hay on Wye Literature Festival with Sir Bryn Terfel, Rebecca Evans and Trystan Llŷr Griffiths. She has performed the roles of **Flosshilde** and **Rossweisse** in various concert performances of *Das Rheingold* and *Götterdämmerung* with the Hallé Orchestra conducted by Sir Mark Elder, Elgar's *Sea Pictures* with the Orchestra of Welsh National Opera at St David's Cathedral as part of the Fishguard Festival, **Madame Rivers** in *Adelson e Salvini* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra for Opera Rara at the Barbican, London (also recorded). At the Royal Albert Hall, London, she has performed in a Gala Concert with the late Luciano Pavarotti, a programme of Verdi music at the BBC Proms; Handel's *Messiah* and a televised performance of Karl Jenkins' *Mass for Peace - The Armed Man*, conducted by the composer in celebration of his 60th birthday.

She has hosted her own television series on S4C and appeared as a soloist on *Diva, Diva, Diva* with Lesley Garret on BBC 2. Recordings include Britten's *Paul Bunyan* for Chandos.

This season, Leah-Marian joins Opra Cymru to perform the role of **Despina** in their touring production of *Così Fan Tutte*. Recent highlights have included the roles of **Latifa** and **Old Lady** in Mohammed Fairouz's newly commissioned opera, *Al Wasl* in Dubai with Welsh National Opera, her role debut as **Marcellina** in *Le nozze di Figaro*, **Princess Marie Akrossimova/ Aide de Camp of Murat/ Mavra Kuzminichna** in *War and Peace* and **Secretary** in concert performances of *The Consul* also all for WNO, **Zita** in *Gianni Schicchi* for Opera North and **Rosa** in concert performances of *Silvano* with Scottish Opera.

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