

MARTA FONTANALS-SIMMONS

MEZZO-SOPRANO

Described as “exemplary” (*The Guardian*) and “velvet-voiced” (*Daily Telegraph*), mezzo soprano Marta Fontanals-Simmons recently made critically acclaimed house and role debuts at the **Royal Opera House**, Covent Garden as Siébel in David McVicar's production of *Faust*, **English National Opera** as Eurydice Woman in Daniel Kramer's iconic production of Harrison Birtwistle's *The Mask of Orpheus*, **Het Concertgebouw** as Amando in Ligeti's *Le Grand Macabre* with James Gaffigan and creating the title role in the world premiere of Gavin Higgins' *The Faerie Bride* at the **Aldeburgh Festival**.



Looking forward to the 2023/24 season, Marta returns to the **Royal Opera House**, Covent Garden covering Storgè in their production of Handel's *Jephtha* and to **Teatro Real**, Madrid as both Vlasta in Weinberg's *Die Passageirin* and Kate Pinkerton *Madama Butterfly*, **Barbican Hall**, where she will perform *St Cecilia Mass* by Nunes Garcia with BBCSO and **Three Choirs Festival** performing Stanford *Stabat Mater* with the Philharmonia Orchestra. Marta continues to work with conductors Jac van Steen, Martyn Brabbins, Brian Kay and Hilary Davan Wetton and will give recitals with her Erda Ensemble.

Recent operatic highlights include the world premiere of *Anna* by David Matthews at **The Grange Festival**, Matriosha in a new Calixto Bieito production of Prokofiev's *War and Peace* and Erste Magd *Elektra* both while in the Ensemble at **Grand Théâtre de Genève**. For **Glyndebourne Festival**, Marta has performed Jacquet in Ethel Smyth's *The Wreckers*, Zweite Dame *Die Zauberflöte*, Lapak *The Cunning Little Vixen*. For **Garsington Opera**, Marta has performed Zweite Dame *Die Zauberflöte* and Cherubino *Le Nozze di Figaro* also at **Théâtre de Champs Elysees**, **Opera de Monte Carlo** and **Grange Park Opera**.

On the concert platform, Fontanals-Simmons has emerged as a “strong artistic personality and an unflinchingly direct communicator” in a broad range of repertoire. A committed recitalist, Marta has performed with **Graham Johnson** at Wigmore Hall, **Iain Burnside** at the Bath International Music Festival, Wigmore Hall and Lammermuir Festival, **Roger Vignoles** at the Juan March Foundation, Madrid, **Christopher Glynn** at the Barber Institute Concert Series, **Simon Lepper** at Lille Opera and for BBCRadio3, **Joanna McGregor** and **Lana Bode** at the Aldeburgh Festival, **Bengt Forsberg** at Den Norske Opera, **Sholto Kynoch** at Oxford Lieder Festival, Blackheath Halls and the Zeist Lieder Festival.

Concert highlights include performing with **BBCSO** at Barbican Hall; **BBCNOW** at St David's Hall; **Philharmonia** at Royal Festival Hall; **RPO** at the Royal Albert Hall and on tour; **CBSO** at Birmingham Symphony Hall; **Radio Filharmonisch Orkest** at Het Concertgebouw; **NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchester** at Hamburg Elbphilharmonie; **Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester** at Berlin Philharmonie; **Die Stuttgarter Philharmoniker** at Stuttgart Liederhalle and at the **BBC Proms**.

Fontanals-Simmons is an associate member of the Quantum Ensemble at the Auditorio de Tenerife. She was awarded the Prix de Lied at Le Concours international de chant-piano Nadia et Lili Boulanger in Paris, was a finalist in the 2014 Kathleen Ferrier Award at Wigmore Hall, London and is a graduate of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, where she was awarded the prestigious Gold Medal in 2016 and was a Jerwood Artist at Glyndebourne for the 2015/16 season. She has been a featured artist on 8 discs including her debut album with long-time collaborator Lana Bode 'I and Silence; Women's Voices in American Song' which received 5 star reviews.