



JENI BERN – SOPRANO

BIOGRAPHY

Jeni Bern is a light lyric soprano of exceptional versatility. A graduate of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and the Opera School of the Royal College of Music where she was the winner of many major awards and prizes, including the prestigious President Emerita Award.

Her varied stage roles have included **Paquette** *Candide* for Théâtre du Châtelet, Teatro all Scala and Hyogo Performing Arts Centre, Kobe; also for Théâtre du Châtelet - **Zdenka Arabella**, **Soeur Margaretta / La Baronne Elsa** *The Sound of Music*; **Woglinde** *Das Rheingold*, **Musetta** *La bohème*, **Susanna** *The Marriage of Figaro*, **Trixie** *Let 'em Eat Cake*, **Tytania** *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, **Gretel** *Hansel & Gretel* and **La Princesse** *L'enfant et les sortilèges* all for Opera North; **Emma Jones** in Kurt Well's *Street Scene* for Opéra de Toulon. Roles for the Royal Opera, Covent Garden include **Guardian of the Threshold** *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, **First Heavenly Voice** *Palestrina*, **Barbarina** *Le nozze di Figaro* and **Blumenmädchen** *Parsifal* (with Plácido Domingo); **Jano** *Jenůfa* for Glyndebourne; **Mabel** *The Pirates of Penzance*; **Yum Yum** *The Mikado*, **Sophie** *Der Rosenkavalier* and **Amor** *Orpheus & Eurydice* for English National Opera. **Amour** *Orphée et Eurydice* for Welsh National Opera. **Medea** *Teseo* and **Susanna** *The Marriage of Figaro* for English Touring Opera; **Eurydice** *Orpheus in the Underworld* for Opera Holland Park; **Musetta** *La bohème* and **Oscar** *Un ballo in Maschera* for Opera Zuid. For the London Handel Festival the title role in *Deidamia* and **Sigismondo** *Arminio*; for the Early Opera Company, **Atalanta** *Xerxes* and **Dalinda** *Ariodante*; **Narcissa** *Philemon und Baucis* with Trevor Pinnock.

As an accomplished oratorio and concert artist, Jeni is in demand with leading conductors and choral societies throughout the UK and Europe. Highlights include Teixeira's *Te Deum* at Macau International Music Festival with Harry Christophers and the Sixteen; **Cupid** in Purcell's *King Arthur* with Paul McCreesh and the Gabrieli Consort at the Bergen Festival; Mozart *Requiem* with The Academy of St Martin in the Fields and Sir Neville Marriner; Haydn's *Creation* for The Three Cultures International Festival Murcia, Spain; *Messiah* with Sir David Willcocks and the Bach Choir; *Messiah* and Finzi's *Dies Natalies* with the St Gallen Bachchor; with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra *Carmina Burana* and Mozart's *Exsultate Jubilate*. World premieres include Michael Torke's *Book of Proverbs* at the Festival with the RSNO and Marin Alsop and for De Doelen, Rotterdam Vivaldi's *Dixit Dominus* and **Teufel** in Vivaldi's *Motezuma*.

Radio appearances included BBC Radio 2's iconic *Friday Night is Music Night* and broadcasts for BBC Radios 3 & 4 also with the Dutch Radio Symphony Orchestra as Anne Truelove in the television series *Of Beauty and Consolation*. Her CD *Let the Bright Seraphim* with Baroque trumpeter Crispian Steele-Perkins (Carlton Classics) received considerable critical acclaim. Other recordings include Haydn's *Stabat Mater* with Christ Church Cathedral Choir (Griffin) and Edward Joseph Collins' *Hymn to the Earth* with the RSNO and Marin Alsop. Jeni also features on the soundtracks of several films including the award-winning *Cashback* and the BBC production of *Daniel Deronda*.

Recent and forthcoming engagements **Galatea** in a recording of *Acis and Galatea* with Oxford Philomusica, **Casilda** for the G&S Opera Company at Buxton Opera House, **Elle** (cover) *La voix humaine* for Opera North and **Woglinde** *Der Ring des Nibelungen* for Opera de Dijon.

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