

Olivia Ray

MEZZO-SOPRANO



Olivia Ray studied at the Royal Northern, the English National Opera's *The Knack*, and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, receiving a fellowship to Aspen, Colorado, to study with Susanne Mentzer. She currently studies with Robert Dean.

Highlights in recent seasons include **Lady Spencer** in *Georgiana* at the Buxton International Festival; **Gertrude** in *Roméo et Juliette*, **Flora** *La traviata*, **Enrichetta di Francia** *I puritani*, and **Soeur Mathilde** *Dialogues des carmélites* for Grange Park Opera; Elgar *The Apostles* at Gloucester Cathedral; and Rossini *Petite messe solennelle* at the Three Choirs Festival.

Operatic roles include **Alisa** *Lucia di Lammermoor*, **Curra** *La forza del destino*, **Mrs Fox** *Fantastic Mr Fox* and **Suzy / Lolette** *La rondine* (all for Opera Holland Park); **Juno** *Orpheus in the Underworld* and **Olga** *Eugene Onegin* (Scottish Opera); **Mrs Noye** *Noyes Fludde* (London Philharmonic Orchestra); **Rosina** *The Barber of Seville* (Stanley Hall Opera); the title role in Offenbach's *La Périchole* (Opera South); **Angelina** *La Cenerentola* (English Pocket Opera, Minotaur Productions, London Opera Productions); **Maddalena** in *Rigoletto* (Live Action Opera); **Irene** *Theodora* and **Pulcheria** *Riccardo Primo* (Opéra de Baugé); **Mother** *The Tales of Hoffmann* and **Esmeralda** *The Bartered Bride* (Mid Wales Opera); the title role in *Carmen* (Pavilion Opera, Opera Brava, Mananan Arts Festival); **Annina** *La traviata* (Pavilion Opera); **Smeraldina** in Prokofiev's *The Love for Three Oranges* (English Pocket Opera); **Dido** *Dido and Aeneas* (Minotaur Productions, Cannon Scholars); **Mrs Kneebone** *Berkeley's A Dinner Engagement* (Opera East); and **Nadine**, John Lunn's workshop production of *Tangier Tattoo* (Glyndebourne).

Oratorio and concert appearances include Bach *St. John Passion*, *St. Matthew Passion*; Berlioz *Les nuits d'été*; Britten *Spring Symphony*; Duruflé *Requiem*; Elgar *Sea Pictures*, *The Music Makers*; Handel *Messiah*, *Theodora*, *Dixit Dominus*; Haydn *Nelson Mass*, *Harmoniemesse*; Mozart *Mass in C Minor*, *Coronation Mass*, *Requiem*, *Vesperes Solomnes*; Scarlatti *Miserere*; and Vivaldi *Gloria*. In recent seasons she performed her first Mahler Symphonies - *Symphony No. 8* at the Royal Festival Hall and *Symphony No.2* in Yorkshire.

Prizes include Fellowship, Aspen Music Festival and School, Colorado; Lillian Baylis Bursary, The Knack, ENO; Clare Croiza Prize for French Song, RNCM and John Cameron Special Lieder Prize, RNCM.

In the current season Olivia returns to Grange Park Opera as **Anna Polikovskaya** in the world premiere of *The Life & Death of Alexander Litvinenko* and performs with Harpenden Choral Society and at the Purbeck International Chamber Music Festival.

Updated August 2019, 2019/20 season
(389 words)