CHRISTINE BRANDES, Conductor

Following a distinguished international singing career, during which she was acclaimed for her radiant, crystalline voice and superb musicianship across a broad repertoire, Christine Brandes brings her passionate and insightful energies to the podium, garnering praise for performances in the opera house and on the symphonic stage.

In the Fall of 2023, Ms. Brandes made her conducting debut at Seattle Opera leading a critically acclaimed production of Handel’s *Alcina* directed by Tim Albery. This was followed by her debut with Choir of Trinity Wall Street and the Trinity Baroque Orchestra in a program of Bach Cantatas. Her 2023–2024 season includes her debut with Les Violons du Roy and La Chapelle de Québec in performances of the Duruflé and Fauré Requiems, with Wolf Trap Opera for a new production of Mozart’s *Così fan tutte*, and a new production of Vivaldi’s *Ottone in villa* with Carnegie Mellon University Opera.

In the summer of 2023, Ms. Brandes, stepping in as the last-minute replacement for Richard Egarr, conducted the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra at the Newport Classical Music Festival. That program included Handel Concerti Grossi and the East Coast premiere of Mason Bates’ *Appalachian Ayre*. Ms. Brandes conducted the world premiere of *Loud* by Jimmy López Bellido during the debut performance of the International Pride Orchestra in San Francisco.

In 2022, Ms. Brandes made her debut performances of Handel’s *Messiah* with the Virginia Symphony. She also conducted the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra and lead performances of Handel’s *Giulio Cesare* for West Edge Opera.

In previous seasons, she has led two productions of Gluck’s *Orfeo ed Euridice*, one for West Edge Opera and an innovative adaption by Victory Hall Opera, which interwove a new play that was performed by deaf actors. Additionally, she has led productions of Haydn’s *Armide* and Rameau’s *La Sympathie* for Victory Hall Opera. She was a 2021–22 fellow of the Dallas Opera Hart Institute for Women Conductors.

As a singer, she has performed principal roles for the following opera companies: San Francisco, Seattle, Washington National, Houston Grand, Minnesota, New York City Opera, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, and Glimmerglass among others. She has sung with the following orchestras: Cleveland, Chicago, New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Houston, Atlanta, Detroit, Seattle, Minnesota, the National Symphony, and with such distinguished conductors as Sir Simon Rattle, Pierre Boulez, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Bernard Labadie and Nicholas McGegan, among many others.