**LAUREN SNOUFFER, Soprano**

Recognized for her unique artistic curiosity in world-class performances spanning the music of Claudio Monteverdi and Johann Adolph Hasse through to Missy Mazzoliand Sir George Benjamin, American Lauren Snouffer is celebrated as one of the most versatile and respected sopranos on the international stage.

Lauren Snouffer celebrates two high profile operatic debuts this season: with the Royal Swedish Opera she creates the role of Justine in the world premiere of Mikael Karlsson and Royce Vavrek’s opera *Melancholia* based upon the powerful film by Lars von Trier, and she makes a Glyndebourne debut as Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte*. A deeply admired guest of The Cleveland Orchestra, Lauren Snouffer returns to the stage of Severance Music Hall to join Daniel Harding for Mahler’s Fourth Symphony paired with *Ces belles années,* a new work by Besty Jolas, commissioned specifically as a companion piece to the Mahler symphony; the pairing of these works, as designed by the Franco-American composer, marks the North American premiere. Highlights of the symphonic calendar also include a semi-staged concert performance of Sir George Benjamin’s *Written on Skin* with the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra under the baton of the composer, Stravinsky’s cantata *Les Noces* with Music Director Esa-Pekka Salonen and the San Francisco Symphony, and Brahms’ *Ein deutsches Requiem* with the Houston Symphony led by Music Director Juraj Valčuha. She also appears with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Dame Jane Glover in Handel’s *Messiah* and in Bach’s *St. John Passion* with the Seattle Symphony, under the baton of Nicholas McGegan.

Lauren Snouffer’s 2022-23 season collaborations included Mahler’s Second Symphony with Franz Welser-Möst and the Cleveland Orchestra, John Adams’ *El Niño* with the Cleveland Orchestra and the composer on the podium, Mahler’s Eighth Symphony with James Conlon and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra,

Mozart’s Mass in c minor, K.427 with Manfred Honeck and the Pittsburgh Symphony, Handel’s *Jephtha* with Dame Jane Glover and Music of the Baroque, Handel’s *Messiah* with Maasaki Suzuki and the San Francisco Symphony, Bach’s Mass in G Major, BWV 236 with Bernard Labadie and the Handel & Haydn Society, Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony with Jaap van Zweden and the New York Philharmonic, and Hans Abrahamsen’s *Let me tell you* with Alan Gilbert conducting the NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchester.

Operatic performances of the season included *Die Zauberflöte* in a return engagement with the Opernhaus Zürich, *Le nozze di Figaro* with Houston Grand Opera, *Il barbiere di Siviglia* at Austin Opera, and debuts at Detroit Opera in *Xerxes*, and at Santa Fe Opera in Monteverdi’s *Orfeo* with a world premiere orchestration by Nico Muhly.

Her operatic performances on leading international stages have fortified the soprano’s place as one of the eminent interpreters of contemporary music; she created the title role in Stefan Wirth’s *Girl with a Pearl Earring* with Opernhaus Zürich and portrayed the lead role in Hans Abrahamsen’s *The Snow Queen* at Opera National du Rhin. She assayed the title role of Berg’s *Lulu* in a new production at the Teatro Municipal de Santiago conducted by Pedro-Pablo Prudencioand directed by Mariame Clément, and returned to Houston Grand Opera for the world premieres of *The Phoenix* by composer Tarik O’Regan and librettist John Caird and *The House Without a Christmas Tree* by Ricky Ian Gordon and Royce Vavrek.

Lauren Snouffer’s concert schedule has yielded marvelous results with many of the world’s most distinguished conductors and orchestras including performances with Franz Welser-Möst and The Cleveland Orchestra, Rafaël Pichon and the Handel & Haydn Society, Cristian Măcelaru and the Rotterdam Philharmonic, Krzysztof Urbański and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Edo de Waart and the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Markus Stenz and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Patrick Dupré Quigley and Seraphic Fire, and with Marin Alsop and the Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo.

Past seasons include Houston Grand Opera performances of *Dialogues des Carmélites* in a production by Francesca Zambello and *Le nozze di Figaro* conducted by Harry Bicket in a production by Michael Grandage as well as presentations of *Carousel*, *Show Boat*, *The Rape of Lucretia*, and *L’italiana in Algeri*. Additional highlights include Lyric Opera of Chicago performances of *Rusalka*, *La clemenza di Tito,* and a new production of *Orphée et Eurydice* directed and choreographed by John Neumeier under the baton of Harry Bicket; a Seattle Opera debut as La Comtesse Adèle in Rossini’s *Le comte Ory* conducted by Giacomo Sagripanti; *Die Zauberflöte* at Seattle Opera and at Lyric Opera of Kansas City; a new Christopher Alden production of Handel’s *Aci, Galatea, e Polifemo* with Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra under the baton of Nicholas McGegan; and Max Emanuel Cencic’s new production of Hasse’s *Siroe* at the Opéra Royal de Versailles, with additional performances in Budapest and Vienna.

Closely associated with Sir George Benjamin’s *Written on Skin*, Lauren Snouffer has sung under the composer’s baton at the Tanglewood Festival of Contemporary Music, with the Théâtre du Capitole de Toulouse, and Opera Philadelphia. She has performed Ligeti’s *Mysteries of the Macabre* with the Aspen Contemporary Ensemble, presented the world premiere of Andrew Norman’s *A Trip to the Moon* with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and joined Alan Gilbert and the New York Philharmonic in the title role of HK Gruber’s *Gloria – A Pig Tale* in a production staged by Doug Fitch.

A Grammy Award-nominated artist, her impactful recording catalogue includes Hasse’s *Siroe* and Handel’s *Ottone* with George Petrou for Decca, Gottschalk’s *Requiem for the Living* with Vladimir Lande on Novona Records, Grantham’s *La cancíon desesperada* conducted by Craig Hella Johnson on Harmonia Mundi, and Feldman’s *Rothko Chapel* with Steven Schick for ECM.

# An alumna of the Houston Grand Opera Studio, Lauren Snouffer was graduated from Rice University and The Juilliard School.