



LAUREN SNOUFFER, Soprano

Recognized for her unique artistic prowess in world-class performances spanning the music of Claudio Monteverdi and Georg Frideric Handel through to Missy Mazzoli and Sir George Benjamin, American Lauren Snouffer is celebrated as one of the most versatile and respected sopranos on the international stage.

Lauren Snouffer debuts this season with Pittsburgh Opera in the title role of *Orphée et Eurydice* directed by José Maria Condemi in a new production led by Antony Walker. The acclaimed soprano returns to Houston Grand Opera as Magnolia Hawks in Francesca Zambello's celebrated production of *Show Boat* conducted by Patrick Summers and she reprises her astonishing portrayal of Bess McNeil in *Breaking the Waves* for a debut at English National Opera in a new production by Tinueke Craig under the baton of Joana Carneiro as well as performances with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra with Kevin John Edusei on the podium. No less dynamic is the soprano's concert diary that includes Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass with Carlos Miguel Prieto and the Saint Louis Symphony, Handel's Messiah with Dame Jane Glover and the Minnesota Orchestra as well as with Ruben Valenzuela and the San Francisco Symphony, and Haydn's *Die Jahreszeiten* with Marc Minkowski and Boston Baroque in his inaugural concert as Music Director.

Last season Lauren Snouffer made her Metropolitan Opera debut as Sarah Kavalier in the new production premiere of *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay*, which marked the soprano's first collaborations with Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin and stage director Bartlett Sher. Additionally, she bowed as Stella Kowalski at Opera Theatre of Saint Louis in Artistic Director Patricia Racette's new production of Sir Andre Previn's *A Streetcar Named Desire* bringing to life Tennessee Williams' Pulitzer Prize-winning drama and masterpiece of 20th century American theater.

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Symphonic performances included the world premiere of Angélica Négron's *For everything you keep losing* with Fabio Luisi and the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and Hans Abrahamsen's *Let Me Tell You* at the Minnesota Orchestra led by Thomas Søndergård. Additional appearances included Mozart's Requiem with Harry Bicket and the Philadelphia Orchestra, Mozart's *Exultate Jubilate* paired with Mahler's Fourth Symphony with Dame Jane Glover and the Fort Worth Symphony, and Handel's Messiah with Cristian Măcelaru and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Jonathan Cohen and the Handel & Haydn Society, and with Michael Francis and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra.

Operatic performances on leading international stages have indisputably fortified the soprano's place as one of the preeminent interpreters of contemporary music. She created the principal role of Justine in the world premiere of Mikael Karlsson and Royce Vavrek's opera *Melancholia* at the Royal Swedish Opera, bowed as Bess McNeil in Missy Mazzoli and Royce Vavrek's adaptation of Lars von Trier's acclaimed feature film *Breaking the Waves* at Houston Grand Opera in a production by Tom Morris with Patrick Summers on the podium, brought to life the title role in Stefan Wirth's *Girl with a Pearl Earring* with Opernhaus Zürich, and assayed the lead role in Hans Abrahamsen's *The Snow Queen* at Opéra national du Rhin

Lauren Snouffer has performed Berg's iconic *Lulu* in a new production at the Teatro Municipal de Santiago conducted by Pedro-Pablo Prudencio and directed by Mariame Clément as well as the title role of Debussy's hallowed *Pelléas et Mélisande* in a new production at The Dallas Opera directed by Jetske Mijnsen led by Ludovic Morlot. She has given numerous world premieres at Houston Grand Opera including *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. Closely associated with Sir George Benjamin's masterpiece *Written on Skin*, Lauren Snouffer has performed this beautiful and bleak work under the composer's baton at the Tanglewood Festival of Contemporary Music and with the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra, and in staged productions at Théâtre du Capitole de Toulouse and Opera Philadelphia.

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Fervently committed to repertoire of the Baroque and Classical eras, Lauren Snouffer made her debut at the Glyndebourne Festival as Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte* under the baton of Constantin Trinks – a role she also has performed at the Opernhaus Zürich and Seattle Opera – *La clemenza di Tito* and *Orphée et Eurydice* at Lyric Opera of Chicago, Rossini's *Le comte Ory* at Seattle Opera, and Hasse's *Siroe* at the Opéra Royal de Versailles with additional performances in Budapest and Vienna. Further appearances include *Xerxes* at Detroit Opera, Monteverdi's *Orfeo* with a world premiere orchestration by Nico Muhly at Santa Fe Opera, and *Dialogues des Carmélites* in a production by Francesca Zambello and *Le nozze di Figaro* conducted by Harry Bicket in a production by Michael Grandage at Houston Grand Opera, which she considers her 'artistic home.'

Lauren Snouffer's concert profile 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, Maasaki Suzuki and the San Francisco Symphony, Manfred Honeck and the Pittsburgh Symphony, Jaap van Zweden and the New York Philharmonic, Alan Gilbert conducting the NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchester, Edo de Waart and the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, and with Marin Alsop and the Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo.

Highlights of the recent past include performances of Mahler's Fourth Symphony paired with *Ces belles années*, by Besty Jolas, with Daniel Harding and The Cleveland Orchestra, Stravinsky's *Les Noces* with both the Orchestre de Paris and San Francisco Symphony conducted by Esa-Pekka Salonen, and Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem* with the Houston Symphony led by Juraj Valčuha. Lauren Snouffer has appeared with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Dame Jane Glover in Handel's *Messiah*, with the Seattle Symphony and Nicholas McGegan in performances of Bach's *St. John Passion*, and she has made innumerable appearances with Matthew Dirst and Ars Lyrica Houston.

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 canción desesperada* conducted by Craig Hella Johnson on Harmonia Mundi, and Feldman's *Rothko Chapel* with Steven Schick for ECM.

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