



EMA NIKOLOVSKA, Mezzo-Soprano

Born in North Macedonia, Mezzo-Soprano Ema Nikolovska grew up in Toronto where she studied violin at The Glenn Gould School, before studying voice with Helga Tucker. She received her Master's in Voice at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London, where she also completed the Opera Course. Ema was a BBC New Generation Artist from 2019-2022. In 2019 she won first prize at the International Vocal Competition in 's-Hertogenbosch, the Ferrier Loveday Song Prize (Kathleen Ferrier Awards), and was a prize-winner at the Young Classical Artists Trust (YCAT) International Auditions. In 2022 she became a recipient of the prestigious Borletti-Buitoni Trust award.

In the 2026/27 season, Ema returns to the Deutsche Staatsoper Berlin for Cherubino/*Le nozze di Figaro* and to the Canadian Opera Company for her role debut as Komponist/*Ariadne auf Naxos*. She sings Phèdre in Rameau's *Hippolyte et Aricie* with Marc Minkowski and les Musiciens du Louvre in Paris and Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* with Les Violons du Roy and Bernard Labadie in Quebec City and Montréal. In its 300th anniversary year, Ema tours Bach's St Matthew Passion in Asia with the Leipzig Gewandhaus orchestra and Andreas Reize.

Last season, Ema made three milestone role debuts: Cherubino/*Le nozze di Figaro* at Opernhaus Zürich, the title role of Olga Neuwirth's *Orlando* at Komische Oper Berlin, and Niklausse in Lydia Steier's new production of *Les contes d'Hoffmann* at the Deutsche Staatsoper Berlin where, as an alumna of their Opera Studio, her roles include Stéfano in *Roméo et Juliette* and Octavian in *Der Rosenkavalier*.

A champion of contemporary music, Ema has premiered works by Sasha Scott, Cassandra Miller and Héloïse Werner. She made her debut last season with Ensemble Intercontemporain in Boulez's *Le Marteau sans maître* and returned to Wigmore Hall with Hikaru Kanki in a recital featuring songs by Dai Fujikura and Sato Matsui. In 2023 she sang the Woman in George Benjamin's *Picture a Day Like This*, making her debut at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. She revived the role in 2024 at Opéra du Rhin, Strasbourg.

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Her exceptional concert experience includes Mozart's Coronation Mass with Mozarteum Orchestra and Roberto González-Monjas at the Salzburg Festival, Schumann's *Das Paradies und die Peri* and Mozart's Requiem with Staatskapelle Berlin and Marc Minkowski, Jaquet de la Guerre's *Céphale et Procris* with Reinoud van Mechelen and Nocte Temporis, Mendelssohn's *Elias* with the Münchner Rundfunkorchester and Howard Arman, Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* with Musikkollegium Winterthur and Barbara Hannigan, Ravel's *Chansons Madecasses* with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra and George Benjamin, and Scriabin's First Symphony with the Danish Radio Symphony and Fabio Luisi, released by Deutsche Grammophon in 2025. Last season, she sang her first Mahler's Second Symphony with Alexander Shelley and the National Arts Centre Orchestra, Ottawa.

An internationally celebrated recitalist, her partners have included Martha Argerich, Andras Schiff, Charles Richard-Hamelin, and guitarist, Sean Shibe in concerts throughout Europe, Canada and North America, including her debut in 2024 at Carnegie's Weill Hall. She is a regular favourite at Wigmore Hall, where she was an artist in residence in the 2023/24 season. Elsewhere, Ema has performed at the Pierre Boulez Saal, Konzerthaus Berlin, the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, and at the Schubertfada Vilabertran, Verbier, Heidelberg, Gstaad, Aldeburgh, Leeds Lieder and Toronto Summer Music Festivals, collaborating with Malcolm Martineau, Wolfram Rieger, Andras Schiff, Graham Johnson, Joseph Middleton, Kunal Lahiry amongst others.

Her first solo recording featuring Schubert orchestrated songs with Nicolas Ellis and Agora Orchestra is released this season on the Aparté label.

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