

Klara Ek Soprano



“Vitellia’s set pieces were the vocal glory of the evening in the fearless and brilliant soprano of Klara Ek”

– Hilary Finch, *Opera*

Klara Ek has a voice of expansive beauty and remarkable clarity - qualities recognised by many of the world’s leading conductors and orchestras. This season she makes debuts with both the Berliner Philharmoniker under Ton Koopman in performances of Bach’s *Magnificat* and with the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig under Christopher Hogwood in performances of Schumann’s *Szenen aus Goethes Faust*. Under Helmuth Rilling she has made debuts with the National Symphony Orchestra, Washington and with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra; and under Vladimir Ashkenazy with NHK Symphony Orchestra and the Philharmonia Orchestra. Her recordings include the acclaimed *A – Z of Mozart Opera*

with the Classical Opera Company released on Sony/BMG.

Klara Ek is much in demand by the principal early-music ensembles with whom she has performed in many of the major venues throughout Europe. She works regularly with Alan Curtis and Il Complesso Barocco with whom she has recorded Jommelli’s *Ezio* and Scarlatti’s *Tolomeo e Alessandro*; she has sung the role of Oriana (*Amadigi di Gaula*) with the Academy of Ancient Music under Christopher Hogwood; and she has recently collaborated with Pablo Heras-Casado and his *Compañía y Orquesta Barroca de Aranjuez* in the first modern performance of Bonno’s *L’isola disabitata* which has also been recorded for future release. The anniversary year of 2009 saw Klara performing works by Haydn on three continents.

On stage Klara Ek’s roles have included Susanna for Royal Danish Opera, Pamina and Susanna for Staatstheater Stuttgart, and this season she sings her first *Ilia* on tour with Danish National Opera under Tobias Ringborg. Debuts have also included *Echo* at Grand Théâtre de Genève under Jeffrey Tate and *Erste Dame* at La Monnaie under René Jacobs.

Klara Ek made her Wigmore Hall debut in 2007 in an all Haydn programme with the Classical Opera Company. And during the same season she made her Japanese debut in an all Mozart programme at the prestigious Musashino Cultural Foundation.

A graduate of the Royal College of Music in Stockholm, Klara also studied at the University College of Opera, Stockholm where she worked with such luminaries as Craig Rutenberg, Roger Vignoles, Tomas Schuback, Mark Tatlow, Kerstin Meyer and Birgit Nilsson. At the Royal College of Music in London she worked with Lillian Watson.