Rihab Chaieb

Mezzo-Soprano

Tunisian-born Rihab Chaieb was a member of the Metropolitan Opera’s Lindemann Young Artist Program, where she appeared in productions of *L’italiana in Algeri*, *Luisa Miller, Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Hänsel und Gretel* among others, earning praise for dramatic charm, vocal clarity and sensuous tone. Since embarking on her freelance career, Chaieb has made a number of important debuts, positioning herself as a name of note in the lyric mezzo-soprano repertoire.

Demonstrating repertoire versatility these last seasons, Rihab Chaieb debuted at Dutch National Opera as Lola in Robert Carsen’s new staging of *Cavalleria rusticana* under Lorenzo Viotti, sang Cherubino in *Le nozze di Figaro* at Cincinnati Opera, was Offenbach’s Fantasio at Opéra et Orchestre National de Montpellier, returned to The Met as Zerlina in *Don Giovanni* under Cornelius Meister, and received unanimous acclaim for her role debut as Carmen in Lydia Steier’s intensive new production for Oper Köln. The 20/21 season includes her first Charlotte in Massenet’s *Werther* in concert performances at Opera Vlaanderen under Giedrė Šlekytė, and further ahead she returns to The Met as Nefertiti in Philip Glass’ *Akhnaten*.

Chaieb has made several recent orchestral debuts including de Falla’s *Three-Cornered Hat* both with Vancouver Symphony Orchestra under Music Director Otto Tausk and Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra under Carlos Miguel Prieto, Rossini arias with Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal under Music Director Kent Nagano, and Mahler’s *Das Lied von der Erde* at the Toronto Summer Music Festival. Concert appearances in the 20/21 season include Mahler’s *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* with Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal under Johannes Debus, Handel’s Messiah with Orchestre Classique de Montréal, and Bach’s Mass in B minor with Orchestre Métropolitain and Yannick Nézet-Séguin – Rihab also joined the latter in a special audiovisual recording of Beethoven’s Symphony No.9 for Deutsche Grammophon’s new online platform, DG Stage, over the summer. A keen recitalist, Rihab has previously appeared in London with pianist James Bailleu and will be presented together with pianist Jennifer Szeto this season in Montréal.

A former member of both the Canadian Opera Company’s Ensemble Studio, where she earned major acclaim as Sesto (*La clemenza di Tito*), and San Francisco Opera’s Merola Opera Program, where she debuted as Cherubino, Chaieb also enjoyed several summers at the Glyndebourne Festival as Mércedès (*Carmen*) under Jakub Hrůša, and Flora (*La traviata*) under Andrés Orozco-Estrada. Further operatic highlights include Dorabella (*Così fan tutte*) at Teatro Santiago de Chile, Kasturbai in Philip Glass’ *Satyagraha* at Opera Vlaanderen, and for Houston Grand Opera, a trio of roles in the world premiere of Tarik O’Regan’s *The Phoenix*, based on the life of Lorenzo Da Ponte.

The recipient of many major grants, Rihab Chaieb has also enjoyed competition success, taking Third Prize at the 2018 Operalia Competition, winning the 2016 Gerda Lissner International Vocal Competition, and taking prizes at both the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and the 2018 George London Foundation Competition.

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