Susan Bullock

Soprano

Susan Bullock’s unique position as one of the world’s most sought-after dramatic sopranos was recognised by the award of a CBE in June 2014.

Of her most distinctive roles, Wagner’s Brünnhilde has garnered outstanding praise leading Bullock to become the first ever soprano to sing four consecutive cycles of *Der Ring des Nibelungen* at the Royal Opera House under Sir Antonio Pappano. Appearances as Richard Strauss’ Elektra have brought her equal international acclaim and collaborations with some of the world’s leading conductors including Fabio Luisi, Semyon Bychkov, Seiji Ozawa, Sir Mark Elder and Edo de Waart.

In recent seasons, Susan has explored new repertoire making debuts as Klytaemnestra (*Elektra*) for the Canadian Opera Company under Johannes Debus, the role of Liz Stride in the world premiere of Iain Bell’s *Jack the Ripper* for ENO; and her acclaimed portrayal of Mother for Scottish Opera in Mark Anthony-Turnage’s *Greek* at BAM which she debuted at the Edinburgh International Festival. Further debuts include in the role of Kostelnička (*Jenůfa*) for Den Norske Opera and Grange Park Opera; both Gertrude and The Witch *(Hänsel und Gretel*) for Opera North and Grange Park Opera, and as Mrs Lovett (*Sweeney Todd*) for Houston Grand Opera and Bergen National Opera. She has taken on the role of Magdelone in Carl Nielsen’s *Maskarade*, in anew production by Tobias Kratzer conductedby Titus Engel for Oper Frankfurt; and returned to Scottish Opera as Old Lady in their new production of *Candide.* The past seasons have also brought special virtual projects *Feast in the Time of Plague* and her debut as an actor in Keith Warner’s unique staging of *King Lear* in which she played Goneril at The Grange Festival.

In the current season, Susan reprises the role of Mother in Missy Mazzoli’s award winning *Breaking the Waves* for Opéra Comique; and after a hugely successfully London premier last season, she gives further performances as Judith in Daisy Evans’s production of *Bluebeard’s Castle* for Atlanta Opera, with subsequent performances at Edinburgh International Festival and with New Zealand Opera later this same season. Susan also returns to Oper Frankfurt as Klytaemnestra (*Elektra*) in Claus Guth’s new production, conducted by Sebastien Weigle.

Susan’s vast and diverse concert work has included the Liebestod from *Tristan und Isolde* with Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Philharmonia Orchestra, and with Zubin Mehta and the orchestra of the Bayerische Staatsoper. Popular appearances have included the Last Night of the Proms in 2011 and a special appearance at the London 2012 Olympics closing ceremony. Susan returned to Wigmore Hall in their Late Night series with pianist Richard Sisson in an eclectic programme — ‘Songs my father taught me’ — which ranged from Sondheim to Noel Coward and Burt Bacharach, a programme they also performed at Petworth Festival. Last season she joined the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall for a gala concert in celebration of Raymond Gubbay.

Susan Bullock’s substantial discography includes *Der Ring des Nibelungen* with Oper Frankfurt under Sebastian Weigle on OehmsClassics (also available on DVD), and the title role in *Salome* with the Philharmonia Orchestra under Sir Charles Mackerras for Chandos.

Susan was the Artist in Resident at the 20/21 Copenhagen Opera Festival and this season continues in her role as Chair of Vocal Studies at the Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofía Madrid.

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