

Mirjam Mesak

Soprano

Estonian soprano Mirjam Mesak is currently a member of the Bayerische Staatsoper ensemble where she has left an indelible impression in roles from Iolanta to Musetta. Her appearances in Munich this season are heralded by the world premiere of Axel Ranisch’s opera film – *Orphea in Love* – in which Mirjam plays the principal role. On stage she makes her debut as Oscar in Johannes Erath’s new production of *Un ballo in maschera* under Ivan Repušic, as well as joining new productions of *The Bartered Bride* as Esmerelda under Gábor Káli and as Ännchen in *Der Freischütz* conducted by Lothar Koenigs. Mirjam also sings Tebaldo (*Don Carlo*) under Andrea Battistoni, Anna (*Nabucco*) conducted by Daniele Rustioni, 1st Sprite (*Rusalka*) under Henrik Nánási, and returns to her roles in *The Cunning Little Vixen* under Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla and Musetta in *La bohème* conducted by Juraj Valcuha.

A former member of Munich’s Opernstudio, Mirjam’s appearance as Tchaikovsky’s Iolanta at the Cuvilliés Theater earned her unanimous critical acclaim for her ability to bring an ‘unbelievable amount of depth’ to the character (*Bachtrack*) and is soon to be released on DVD. Further highlights have included Musetta in an all-star cast of *La bohème* conducted by Asher Fisch, streamed internationally by the Bayerische Staatsoper, as well as Juliette in Simon Stone’s landmark production of *Die tote Stadt* under Kirill Petrenko, since released on DVD. Her vivid characterisations have also brought to life such roles as Freia (*Das Rheingold*), Nella (*Gianni Schicchi*), Dew Fairy (Hänsel und Gretel) and most recently in Kirill Serebrennikov’s new production of *The Nose* conducted by Vladmir Jurowski.

In Estonia, Mirjam appears regularly with the Estonian National Opera, Estonian National Symphony Orchestra and Vanemuine Symphony Orchestra, collaborating most recently with Arvo Volmer, Risto Joost and Olari Elts. This season she returns to Tallinn to reprise her critically acclaimed Norina in *Don Pasquale*. Highlights elsewhere have included her role and company debut at the Puccini Festival in Torre del Lago as Lisette in *La rondine*, Nella in *Gianni Schicchi* for Oper Frankfurt, and Shostakovich’s Symphony No.14 with Oslo Philharmonic under Klaus Mäkelä. A keen recitalist, this season Mirjam presents programmes at the Usedomer Musikfestival and with Eesti Kontsert featuring Rachmaninov, Chopin, and Estonian composers Ester Mägi and Eduard Tubin.