Lauren Fagan

Soprano

Australian soprano Lauren Fagan has grown into one of today’s most accomplished sopranos, admired by international critics for her “glossy, commanding sound” and “magnificent dramatic power”. Fagan’s recent portrayals of Countess Almaviva (*Le nozze di Figaro*), Helena (*A Midsummer Night’s Dream*), Avis (*The Wreckers*) and Margarita Xirgu (*Ainadamar*) have solidified her position as one of the most impressive and versatile singing actresses on today’s operatic landscape.

In the 2024/25 season, Fagan returns to Opernhaus Zürich to debut as Komponist in Andreas Homoki's new production of*Ariadne auf Naxos* under Markus Poschner and later in the season to reprise Giulietta in*Les contes d'Hoffmann*, led by Antonio Fogliani.  Elsewhere she returns to the Canadian Opera Company for her much anticipated role debut as Tatyana in Robert Carsen's production of *Eugene Onegin,*conducted by Speranza Scappucci. On the concert stage, she debuts with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and Jaime Martin in Beethoven *Symphony no 9*, returns to the Sydney Symphony Orchestra for Vaughan Williams *Symphony no 3* under Simone Young, and with the Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra adds Verdi *Messa da Requiem* under Marios Papadopoulos.

A former member of the Jette Parker Young Artist Programme at Royal Ballet and Opera, Fagan returned in the 2023/24 season as Gretel in Antony McDonald’s production of *Hansel and Gretel* under Mark Wigglesworth and as Musetta in Richard Jones’ *La bohème* under Keri-Lynn Wilson. Elsewhere in the season, she debuted as Gutrune in Andreas Homoki’s new production of *Götterdämmerung* at Opernhaus Zürich under Gianandrea Noseda, appeared at Festspielhaus Baden-Baden and Berliner Philharmonie as 5. Magd in *Elektra* with Kirill Petrenko and the Berliner Philharmoniker and made her Opera Australia debut as Angelica in Puccini’s *Suor Angelica* conducted by Lydia Yankovskaya and directed by Imara Savage.

Recent seasons have seen an impressive array of appearances including her first Contessa Almaviva at Canadian Opera Company under Harry Bicket, Margarita Xirgu in Golijov’s *Ainadamar* for Scottish Opera, Helena in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* conducted by Dalia Stasevska at Glyndebourne Festival Opera and Giulietta in Andreas Homoki’s *Les contes d’Hoffmann* under Antonino Fogliani at Opernhaus Zürich. As Norma in Marina Abramovic’s *7 Deaths of Maria Callas* conducted by Yoel Gamzou, Lauren made debuts at both Opéra de Paris and Bayerische Staatsoper and has appeared as Woglinde in Keith Warner’s *Ring Cycle* at Royal Ballet and Opera, under Sir Antonio Pappano.

In her earlier seasons, Fagan found success in a wide range of operatic roles including as Donna Elvira with NHK Symphony Orchestra under Paavo Järvi, Handel’s *Alcina* at the International Händel-Festspiele Karlsruhe, Mimì in Phyllida Lloyd’s staging of *La bohème* at Opera North, Musetta with Welsh National Opera and a Violetta who “mines unsuspected depths of emotion while singing the music with pearly ease” (The Times) in Rodula Gaitanou’s *La Traviata* at Opera Holland Park.

Elsewhere on the concert platform, Fagan appeared as Avis in Smyth’s *The Wreckers* with Deutsches Symphonie Orchester Berlin under Robin Ticciati and Roxana in Szymanowski’s *Krol Roger* with Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia under Sir Antonio Pappano. She sang her first Handel *Messiah* with Toronto Symphony Orchestra under Music Director Gustavo Gimeno, joined the line-up for Beethoven *Symphony no 9* with Oslo Philharmonic under Klaus Mäkelä, graced the Last Night of the BBC Proms under Sakari Oramo in Vaughan Williams *Serenade to Music* and performed Strauss *Vier letzte Lieder* in Malmö under Karen Kamensek.

Representing her country in the 2019 BBC Cardiff Singer of the World Competition, Fagan made her Australian operatic debut as Violetta in *La traviata* at State Opera South Australia shortly thereafter and having previously performed Beethoven *Ah! Perfido* with Sydney Symphony Orchestra under Simone Young and Barber’s *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* with Adelaide Symphony Orchestra under Dane Lam.