Aude Extrémo

Mezzo-soprano

Noted for her dark, opulent timbre and magnetic stage presence, Mezzo-soprano Aude Extrémo has emerged as a formidable force in the dramatic repertoire with a recent series of impressive debuts attracting critical acclaim for emotionally vivid portrayals and limitless vocal stamina. Building her reputation as a Wagnerian voice of note, the last seasons have seen first performances as Fricka (*Die Walküre)* for Opéra national de Bordeaux and Opéra de Marseille, Brangäne (*Tristan und Isolde)* at Opéra national de Lorraine, and Erda in *Siegfried*for Theater Dortmund and in *Das Rheingold* with Guanghzhou Symphony Orchestra. Her debut as Azucena last season in Louis Désiré’s new production of *Il trovatore* for Opéra de Marseille under Michele Spotti was universally acclaimed as was her Judith (*Bluebeard’s Castle)*for Opéra de Dijon under Kristiina Poska, and her performances as Maddalena (*Rigoletto)*and Suzuki (*Madama Butterfly)*for Opéra National de Paris highlighted her capacity to deliver dramatic commitment and flawless vocal line.

A laureate of Atelier Lyrique at Opéra national de Paris, Extrémo excels in French repertoire and was hailed “the Carmen of her generation” after performances at Opéra national de Bordeaux under Marc Minkowski. Further successes include Dalila (*Samson et Dalila)* at Opéra national de Bordeaux, Charlotte (*Werther)* with l’Orchestre Symphonique d’Aquitaine, Marguerite (*La damnation de Faust)* under Kazuki Yamada for Opéra de Monte Carlo, both Ursule (*Béatrice et Bénédict)*and Anna (*Les Troyens)*under Philippe Jordan at Opéra National de Paris, Concepcion (*L’heure Espagnole)*for Opéra de Tours, and Catherine in Roméo Castellucci’s staging of *Jeanne d’Arc au bûcher* at La Monnaie under Kazushi Ono.

In the upcoming season Extrémo sings Sélysette in Àlex Ollé’s new production of *Ariane et Barbe-Bleue* for Teatro Real under Pinchas Steinberg, as well as reprising her tour-de-force portrayal of Yamina in Augusta Holmès’ *La Montagne Noire* for Opéra National de Bordeaux both in performance and recording for future release. Extrémo will also debut at the Macau International Festival as Carmen and embark on tour as the title role in *Orlando* with Les Musiciens du Louvre under Marc Minkowski in Paris, Valencia and Barcelona.

An engaging concert performer, recent highlights have included Verdi, Messa da Requiem with Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra under Domingo Hindoyan, Orchestre de Paris under Jaap van Zweden, and Orchestre national du Capitole de Toulouse under Jukka-Pekka Saraste. An innate interpreter of Mahler, Aude Extrémo expands her repertoire with first performances of his Symphony No.2 this season with Orchestre Philharmonique de Marseille under Michele Spotti, as well as returning to *Lieder eines Fahrenden Gesellen* with Orchestre national Avignon Provence under Debora Waldman. Elsewhere Aude joins Chœur de Radio France forClémence de Grandval’s Stabat Mater – recorded for France Musique – and the Hungarian National Philharmonic Orchestra for Massenet, *La Vierge* under György Vashegyi.