



Wendy Silvester

Mezzo-Soprano



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Biography

British mezzo-soprano, Wendy Silvester, is a versatile performer with a wide repertoire. She has worked with a number of companies throughout the UK, and her performance credits include Ulrica (*Un ballo in Maschera*), Florence (*Albert Herring*), Marta (*Iolanta*), Sorceress (*Dido and Aeneas*), La Zia Principessa (*Suor Angelica*), Maurya (*Riders to the Sea*), Hänsel (*Hänsel und Gretel*), Lucia (*La gazza ladra*), and Orfeo (*Orfeo ed Euridice*). Wendy regularly performs in Italy with Scheggino Opera, where she has performed the roles of Signora Guidotti (*I due timidi*), Zita (*Gianni Schicchi*).

Wendy's training has taken her across Europe and now into the US. She has studied at the Conservatory of Music and Drama at the Dublin Institute of Technology, City Lit Opera School in Covent Garden, the Latvian Academy of Music, Riga, and in 2018, Wendy graduated from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff with an MA in Opera Performance.

Whilst in Cardiff, Wendy took on the role of Zita in *Gianni Schicchi* with the Welsh National Opera Orchestra, under the baton of Carlo Rizzi. Other roles performed as part of her master's degree include excerpts of Isabella (*L'italiana in Algeri*), Angelina (*La Cenerentola*), Penelope (*Il ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria*), as well as Olga Olsen in a full production of *Street Scene*. Wendy also covered the role of Athamus in a joint touring production of Handel's *Semele* with Mid Wales Opera.

In 2019, Wendy gained a scholarship to study at the Utah Vocal Arts Academy. As part of the Dramatic Voices Program she studied excerpts from the roles of Amneris (*Aida*), Mother (*The Consul*), Mistress Quickly (*Falstaff*), and Laura (*La Gioconda*). She also performed the role of Dritte Damen in UVAA's principal artist production of *Die Zauberflöte*. Later in 2019, Wendy made her role debut as Erda in *Das Rheingold* with Tarnhelm Opera. On the concert stage, as well as performing solo recitals, Wendy has performed as the Alto Soloist in Handel's *Messiah* with the Pegasus Baroque Orchestra and the choir of St Mary's Maldon. In 2019, Wendy was the Alto Soloist in Mozart's *Requiem* with the Bolton Symphony Orchestra at the Victoria Hall, Bolton.

In January 2020, Wendy travelled to New York to work with New York Dramatic Voices. There she performed excerpts from the roles of Mistress Quickly (*Falstaff*), Jezibaba (*Rusalka*) and Rossweisse (*Die Walküre*). Her relationship with New York Dramatic Voices has continued since January, and she was delighted to take part in their recent online summer concert series.

Wendy is a recipient of the 2020 Richard Wagner Stipendienstiftung and, following the cancellation of the Bayreuth Festival in 2020, is looking forward to attending in 2021. Cancelled plans also included the role of Maddalena in Verdi's *Rigoletto*, which she hopes to return to in the near future.

Coming up in 2021, Wendy will be returning to Italy again, to make her role debut as Isabella in Rossini's *L'italiana in Algeri* with Scheggino Opera.



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Résumé

Opera	Isabella	<i>L'italiana in Algeri</i>	Scheggino Opera	2021
	Rosswisse	<i>Die Walküre</i>	New York Dramatic Voices	2020
	Erda	<i>Das Rheingold</i>	Tarnhelm Opera	2019
	Dritte Damen	<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>	Utah Vocal Arts Festival	2019
	Marta	<i>Iolanta</i>	Rose Opera	2019
	Filipyevna	<i>Eugene Onegin</i>	Serenata Singers	2018
	Zita	<i>Gianni Schicchi</i>	RWCMD & Welsh National Opera	2017
	Olga Olsen	<i>Street Scene</i>	RWCMD	2017
	La Principessa	<i>Suor Angelica</i>	Stanley Opera	2017
	Ulrica	<i>Un ballo in maschera</i>	Stanley Opera	2017
	Athamas (Cover)	<i>Semele</i>	RWCMD & Mid Wales Opera	2016
	Florence	<i>Albert Herring</i>	Harrow Opera	2016
Partial Roles	Quickly	<i>Falstaff</i>	New York Dramatic Voices	2020
	Jezibaba	<i>Rusalka</i>	New York Dramatic Voices	2020
	Mother	<i>The Consul</i>	Utah Vocal Arts Festival	2019
	Quickly	<i>Falstaff</i>	Utah Vocal Arts Festival	2019
	Laura	<i>La Gioconda</i>	Utah Vocal Arts Festival	2019
	Penelope	<i>Il ritorno d'Ulisse</i>	RWCMD	2018
	Angelina	<i>La Cenerentola</i>	RWCMD	2016
Oratorio	Alto Soloist	<i>Requiem</i> , Mozart	Bolton Symphony Orchestra	2019
	Alto Soloist	<i>Messiah</i> , Handel	Pegasus Baroque Orchestra	2018
Awards	Richard Wagner Stipendienstiftung Recipient			2020
Education	MA Opera Performance			2016-2018
	Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Cardiff			
	Vocal Studies Graduate Program			2013-2014
	Conservatory of Music and Drama, Dublin Institute of Technology			
Teachers	Kathryn Harries, Anthony Laciura, Colin Baldy			
Coaches	Ingrid Surgenor, Matt Lobaugh, Rebecca Pacheco, Jeffrey Price			
Directors	Anthony Laciura, Isaac Hurtado, Martin Constantine			
Conductors	Carlo Rizzi, Wyn Davies, Nicolas Giusti, Harry Ogg			
Masterclasses	Deborah Voigt, Peter Randsman, Ken Benson, Allan Glassman			



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Opera Repertoire

Opera Roles Performed

Florence	Britten	<i>Albert Herring</i>
Fidalma	Cimarosa	<i>Il matrimonio segreto</i>
Orfeo	Gluck	<i>Orfeo ed Euridice</i>
Hänsel	Humperdinck	<i>Hänsel und Gretel</i>
Dritte Damen	Mozart	<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>
L'Humana Fragilita	Monteverdi	<i>Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria</i>
Zita	Puccini	<i>Gianni Schicchi</i>
La Principessa	Puccini	<i>Suor Angelica</i>
Sorceress	Purcell	<i>Dido and Aeneas</i>
Maman / La libellule	Ravel	<i>L'enfant et les Sortilèges</i>
Lucia	Rossini	<i>La gazza ladra</i>
Signora Guidotti	Rota	<i>I due timidi</i>
Lady Shakespeare	Tieppo	<i>Lady Shakespeare</i>
Filipyevna	Tchaikovsky	<i>Eugene Onegin</i>
Marta	Tchaikovsky	<i>Iolanta</i>
Maurya	Vaughan-Williams	<i>Riders to the sea</i>
Ulrica	Verdi	<i>Un ballo in maschera</i>
Erda	Wagner	<i>Die Walküre</i>
Rosswisse	Wagner	<i>Das Rheingold</i>
Olga Olsen	Weill	<i>Street Scene</i>

Opera Roles In Preparation

*denotes partially
performed

Ježibaba*	Dvořák	<i>Rusalka</i>
Cornelia*	Handel	<i>Giulio Cesare</i>
Juno	Handel	<i>Semele</i>
Mother*	Menotti	<i>The Consul</i>
Miss Todd	Menotti	<i>The Old Maid and the Thief</i>
Laura*	Ponchielli	<i>La Gioconda</i>
Isabella*	Rossini	<i>L'italiana in Algeri</i>
Baba the Turk	Stravinsky	<i>The Rake's Progress</i>
Olga	Tchaikovsky	<i>Eugene Onegin</i>
Amneris	Verdi	<i>Aida</i>
Mistress Quickly*	Verdi	<i>Falstaff</i>
Maddalena	Verdi	<i>Rigoletto</i>
Azucena	Verdi	<i>Il trovatore</i>
Mary	Wagner	<i>Der fliegende Holländer</i>
Fricka	Wagner	<i>Die Walküre</i>



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Concert Repertoire

Oratorio and Art Song Repertoire

Bach	<i>Vergnügte Ruh, beliebte Seelenlust, BWV 170</i>
Brahms	<i>Alto Rhapsody, Op 53</i> 'Liebe kam aus fernen Landen', No. 4 from <i>Die Schöne Magelone</i>
Britten	<i>Cabaret Songs</i> <i>Canticle II</i> <i>Phaedra, Op. 93</i>
Duparc	'Lamento' 'La vie antérieure' 'Phidylé' 'Soupir', Op.2, No.1
Elgar	<i>Sea Pictures</i>
Gurney	'Sleep', No. 4 from <i>Five Elizabethan Songs</i>
Handel	<i>Messiah</i>
Loewe	<i>Frauenliebe und Leben</i>
Mahler	<i>Rückert-Lieder</i>
Mendelssohn	<i>Elijah</i>
Mozart	<i>Requiem</i>
Venebles	'Midnight Lamentation', Op. 6 'A Kiss', Op. 15
Wagner	<i>Wesendonck Lieder</i>
