

MARGARITA VILSONE Soprano

Latvian soprano Margarita Vilsonē's guest appearances include opera houses and concert halls throughout Europe. Critics and audiences are bowled over by her expressive interpretation and the rich, warm timbre of her voice.

In recent seasons, notable **role debuts** included Amalia in Verdi's *I Masnadieri* at the Volksoper Wien (conducted by Alfred Eschwé) and at the Latvijas Nacionālā Opera in Riga Marguerite in Charles Gounod's *Faust*, Anna in Giacomo Puccini's *Le Villi*, Clara in Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* and Rosalinde in J. Strauß' *Fledermaus*. She sang the role of Rosalinde also at Schlossoper Haldenstein, as well as at Staatstheater Nürnberg where she also made her debuts in the roles of Micaëla (*Carmen*), Mimi (*La Bohème*) and Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*). Other Mozart roles include Donna Elvira (*Don Giovanni*, Junge Oper Schloss Weikersheim) and 1. Dame in *Die Zauberflöte*.

At Staatstheater Nürnberg, Margarita Vilsonē also appeared for the first time in Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen*: In *Walküre*, she performed Ortlinde and in *Götterdämmerung* Dritte Norn and Woglinde. At Stadttheater Klagenfurt, she sang Lisa in Lehár's *Das Land des Lächelns*.

Concerts have taken Margarita Vilsonē to Great Britain, the Czech Republic, Latvia, Estonia, Switzerland, Austria and Germany.

In 2014, the *Symphony No. 4* by Gustav Mahler marked the beginning of her ongoing collaboration with the Amber Sound Symphony Orchestra Liepāja.

Other concert performances included appearances with the Kärntner Sinfonieorchester, Latvijas Nacionālais simfoniskais orķestris, the Staatsphilharmonie Nürnberg and the Westböhmisches Sinfonieorchester under the baton of such conductors as Marcus Bosch, Nicholas Carter, Gábor Káli, Atvars Lakstīgala, Andris Poga, David Roblou, Guido Johannes Rumstadt, Giedrė Šlekytė and Bruno Weil.

Margarita Vilsonē's **concert repertoire** includes *Symphony No. 9* by Ludwig van Beethoven, Mahler's *Symphony No. 4*, J. S. Bach's *Magnificat* and the *Weihnachtsoratorium*, Kristaps Cukur's *To be my own silence* (world premiere), Antonín Dvořák's *Stabat mater*, Honegger's *König David*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Monteverdi's and Vivaldi's *Magnificat* and Richard Strauss' *Vier letzte Lieder*.

Margarita Vilsonē's large **Lied repertoire** ranges from Romantic to contemporary music. Among others, she gave recitals at the Festival Liepāja Summer, at the Voices festival and also in the context of the exhibition Hitler.Macht.Oper at the Dokumentationszentrum Nürnberg with Lieder by banned composers.

From 2015 – 2017, Margarita Vilsonē was member of the International Opera Studio of the Staatstheater Nürnberg.

The soprano received the DAAD Prize, is winner of the international singing contest Accademia Belcanto and finalist of the international singing contest Riccardo Zandonai.

She is a scholarship holder of both the Richard Wagner Society and the Oscar and Vera Ritter Foundation, and was awarded the Deutschlandstipendium.

Margarita Vilsonē began her vocal studies at the Hochschule für Künste Bremen and graduated from the Hochschule für Musik Nürnberg with Prof Jan Hammar. She attended master classes with Helmut Deutsch, Robert Holl, Christa Ludwig, Angelika Kirchschrager, Hedwig Fassbender, Krisztina Laki, Maris Skuja and Mya Besselink and is continuing her studies with Dale Fundling.

(August 2019)