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STEPHANIE BLYTHE Mezzo-Soprano



Mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe is considered to be one of the most highly respected and critically acclaimed artists of her generation

Ms. Blythe has sung in many of the renowned opera houses in the US and Europe including the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Seattle Opera, Royal Opera House Covent Garden, and the Opera National de Paris. Her many roles include the title roles in *Carmen*, *Samson et Dalila*, *Orfeo ed Euridice*, *La Grande Duchesse*, *Tancredi*, *Mignon*, and *Giulio Cesare*; Frugola, Principessa, and Zita in *Il Trittico*, Fricka in both *Das Rheingold* and *Die Walküre*, Waltraute in *Götterdämmerung*, Azucena in *Il Trovatore*, Ulrica in *Un Ballo in Maschera*, Baba the Turk in *The Rake's Progress*, Ježibaba in *Rusalka*, Jocasta in *Oedipus Rex*, Mere Marie in *Dialogues des Carmélites*; Mistress Quickly in *Falstaff*, and Ino/Juno in *Semele*. She also created the role of Gertrude

Stein in Ricky Ian Gordon's 27 at the Opera Theatre of Saint Louis.

Ms. Blythe has also appeared with many of the world's finest orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Orchestra of New York, Minnesota Orchestra, Halle Orchestra, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, the Ensemble Orchestre de Paris, and the Concertgerbouworkest. She has also appeared at the Tanglewood, Cincinnati May, and Ravinia festivals, and at the BBC Proms. The many conductors with whom she has worked include Harry Bicket, James Conlon, Charles Dutoit, Mark Elder, Christoph Eschenbach, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Alan Gilbert, James Levine, Fabio Luisi, Nicola Luisotti, Sir Charles Mackerras, John Nelson, Antonio Pappano, Mstislav Rostropovitch, Robert Spano, Patrick Summers, and Michael Tilson Thomas.

A frequent recitalist, Ms. Blythe has been presented in recital in New York by Carnegie Hall in Stern Auditorium and Zankel Hall, Lincoln Center in both its Great Performers Series at Alice Tully Hall and its American Songbook Series at the Allen Room, Town Hall, the 92nd Street Y, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She has also been presenter by the Vocal Arts Society and at the Supreme Court in Washington, DC; the Cleveland Art Song Festival, the University Musical Society in Ann Arbor, the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Shriver Hall in Baltimore, and San Francisco Performances.

A champion of American song, Ms. Blythe has premiered several song cycles written for her including *Twelve Poems of Emily Dickinson* by the late James Legg, *Covered Wagon Woman* by Alan Smith which was commissioned by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and recorded with the ensemble (CMS Studio Recordings); and *Vignettes: Ellis Island*, also by Alan Smith and featured in a special television program entitled *Vignettes: An Evening with Stephanie Blythe and Warren Jones*.

Ms Blythe starred in the Metropolitan Opera's live HD broadcasts of *Orfeo ed Euridice, Il Trittico, Rodelinda*, and the complete Ring Cycle. She also appeared in PBS's *Live From Lincoln Center* broadcasts of the New York Philharmonic's performance of *Carousel* and her acclaimed show, *We'll Meet Again: The Songs of Kate Smith*. Her recordings include her solo album, *as long as there are songs* (Innova), and works by Mahler, Brahms, Wagner, Handel and Bach (Virgin Classics).

This season, Ms. Blythe's many engagement include her returns to the Metropolitan Opera for *The Rake's Progress*, the Lyric Opera of Chicago for *Il Trovatore*, the Seattle Opera for *Semele*, and Carnegie Hall for a recital in Stern Auditorium.

Ms. Blythe was named *Musical America*'s Vocalist of the Year for 2009. Her other awards include the 2007 *Opera News* Award and the 1999 Richard Tucker Award.

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Photo Credit: Stephanie Blythe