

PRESS RELEASE

27 January 2020

Soprano Elizabeth Llewellyn sings title role in Barbora Horáková's production of Verdi's *Luisa Miller* at English National Opera

Wednesday 12, Wednesday 19, Friday 21, Friday 28 February & Friday 6 March, 7:30pm

Saturday 15, 6:30pm

London Coliseum

Sung in English with surtitles

Lyrico-spinto soprano **Elizabeth Llewellyn** brings her specialist knowledge of Italian repertoire to English National Opera as she performs the title role in **Barbora Horáková's** production of Verdi's *Luisa Miller*.

It opens on **Wednesday 12 February** for 6 performances with a cast including: **Olafur Sigurdarson** (Miller), **David Junghoon Kim** (Rodolfo), **James Creswell** (Count Walter), **Christine Rice** (Federica), **Soloman Howard** (Wurm) and **Nadine Benjamin** (Laura) under the baton of **Alexander Joel**.

Llewellyn has established herself firmly as a notable artist on the international stage and is particularly well-known for her portrayal of leading-roles in operas by Verdi and Puccini: most recently *Manon Lescaut*, her seventh Puccini role to date, at Opera Holland Park in June 2019.

London-born Llewellyn studied at the Royal Northern College of Music and the National Opera Studio, supported by the Peter Moores Foundation. After completing the ENO Opera Works training programme, she created the role of Ludovina in the premiere of Glyndebourne Festival's new opera *The Yellow Sofa*.

She made her operatic debut as Mimì in Jonathan Miller's production of *La Bohème* at the English National Opera in London (which led to her being named as "Best newcomer in opera in 2010" by The Telegraph). The following year, she caused a sensation when she returned to the ENO when she jumped-in on opening night as the Countess in their new production of *The Marriage of Figaro*, directed by Fiona Shaw, a role which earned her uniformly glowing reviews.

Llewellyn went on to sing the title role in Puccini's *Tosca*, and the role of *Elsa* in Wagner's *Lohengrin* for Theater Magdeburg, Germany. She was also nominated for "Singer of the Year 2013" in *OpernWelt* magazine for her portrayal of Amelia in Verdi's *Simon Boccanegra* (for which she stepped in to sing the role again with Sir Mark Elder/Hallé Orchestra). She has also sung the title role in Puccini's *Suor Angelica*

and Giorgetta / *Il Tabarro* for the Royal Danish Opera, and recently returned there to make her acclaimed debut in the title role of *Madama Butterfly*.

Other roles include Margherita/Elena in Boito's *Mefistofele* (Chelsea Opera Group) Magda de Civry / *La Rondine* (Opera Holland Park); Fiordiligi / *Così fan tutte* (Theater Magdeburg; Opera Holland Park), Contessa / *Le Nozze di Figaro* (ENO; Opera Holland Park); Donna Elvira / *Don Giovanni* (Theater Magdeburg; Bergen National Opera); Bess / *Porgy and Bess* (Royal Danish Opera; Seattle Opera).

As well as a successful Rosenblatt Recital, Llewellyn's concert appearances have included a Gala Concert with Joseph Calleja recorded for Classic FM, Mahler's Symphony No. 8 with Esa-Pekka Salonen, Verdi's *Requiem*, Britten's *War Requiem*, Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* with Ryan Wigglesworth, and a live performance of Strauss' *Vier Letzte Lieder* on BBC Radio 3 with Donald Runnicles/BBCSSO. Recently, she has recorded Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony* with BBCSO, and the role of Eigen in Elgar's *Caractacus* for Hyperion, both under the baton of Martyn Brabbins.

In the 2019/20 season Llewellyn has already made her Metropolitan Opera debut as Bess in *Porgy and Bess*, and her acclaimed role-debut as *Aida* in Theater Bielefeld in Germany. She makes her role-debut as Verdi's *Luisa Miller* at ENO next month. On the concert platform, she sings Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and Beethoven Symphony No. 9 with the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra. In May, Elizabeth takes to the recording studio with pianist Simon Lepper to record her debut solo album of songs by the British composer, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor.

Tickets: £10-£125 through English National Opera Box Office 020 7845 9300 or eno.org

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