



PAULA MURRIHY

Mezzo-Soprano



Irish Mezzo-Soprano Paula Murrihy enjoys a busy career working at the highest level in both Europe and the US. Previously a member of Oper Frankfurt's acclaimed ensemble, her many roles in Frankfurt included Dido *Dido and Aeneas*, Lazuli *L'étoile*, Octavian *Der Rosenkavalier*, Medoro *Orlando Furioso*, and creating the role of Carmen in Barrie Kosky's iconic production, which she also reprised in Frankfurt for their 2020 revival. Paula received her Bachelor of Music from DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama in Dublin before continuing her studies in North America at the New England Conservatory. She also participated in the Britten-Pears Young Artist Programme, San Francisco Opera's Merola Program and as an apprentice at Santa Fe Opera.

Paula opens her 2022-23 season with a return to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden to sing the role of Donna Elvira *Don Giovanni* directed by Kasper Holten, followed by the title role *Carmen* for her company debut at the Det Kongelige Teater Copenhagen. Further season highlights include singing the role of Countess of Essex for English National Opera's Platinum Jubilee concert performance of Britten's *Gloriana*, joining Irish National Opera as Octavian *Der Rosenkavalier*, Santa Fe Opera as Messaggeria in Monteverdi's *Orfeo* and a return to Oper Frankfurt for her

debut as Dejanira in Handel's *Hercules*, in a new production by Barrie Kosky, conducted by Laurence Cummings. In concert, Paula can be heard singing Cherubino *Le nozze di Figaro* with the Handel & Haydn Society in Boston, a New Year's concert with the Tiroler Festspiele Erl, Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* with the RTÉ Symphony Orchestra and the role of Didon in Berlioz' *Les Troyens* with the Monteverdi Choir & Orchestra, conducted by John Eliot Gardiner.

Last season, Paula made her company debut singing Komponist in Katie Mitchell's production of *Ariadne auf Naxos* at the Gran Teatre del Liceu, Barcelona, sang Nicklausse *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* conducted by Marc Minkowski, and returned to Irish National Opera in the title role *Carmen*. Her recent notable debuts include singing the title role Ariodante in a livestreamed concert performance at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, conducted by Christian Curnyn and for her house debut at the Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow, her debut as Orfeo in a concert performance of Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice* with Opera North, conducted by Laurence Cummings, broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 and her company debut at the Metropolitan Opera, as Stéphano *Roméo et Juliette*.

Further operatic highlights include a return to Santa Fe Opera as Ruggiero in *Alcina* and Orlofsky *Die Fledermaus*, the Salzburg Festival as Idamante in Peter Sellars' production of *Idomeneo* conducted by Teodor Currentzis, Dorabella *Così fan tutte* at the Palau de les Arts in Valencia, a return to Frankfurt to sing the title role in Fauré's *Pénélope*, Dutch National Opera as Octavian *Der Rosenkavalier* and Sesto *La Clemenza di Tito*, at Opernhaus Zürich as Concepcion in *L'heure Espagnole* and Cherubino *Le Nozze di Figaro*, at the Teatro Real in Madrid as Frances, Countess of Essex in Britten's *Gloriana*, at Oper Frankfurt as the Komponist in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Dido *Dido and Aeneas* for Los Angeles Opera, Octavian *Der Rosenkavalier* at Staatsoper Stuttgart and returned to her native Ireland to make her role debut as Judith in *Bluebeard's Castle* for Irish National Opera.

On the concert platform Paula enjoys a close relationship with MusicAeterna and Teodor Currentzis and performances include *Così fan tutte*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, Purcell's *Indian Queen*, Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*, Mahler's *Kindertotenlieder*,

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Hindemith's *Die Junge Magd* and *Das Knaben Wunderhorn* at the Mariinsky Theatre and on a tour of Europe. More recently, she joined baroque ensemble The English Concert Orchestra to sing Micah in a performance of Handel's *Samson* in London, as well as Ruggiero *Alcina* in Los Angeles and San Francisco, and as Arsamene *Serse* for a tour of Spain and the US, with venues including Carnegie Hall, New York. Additional concert highlights include a European tour of *St John Passion* with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, performing Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* at the Tiroler Festspiele Erl, her debut at the BBC Proms in 2016 in Haydn's *Paukenmesse* and performing works by Tommaso Traetta with La Nuova Musica and David Bates at the Wigmore Hall, the role of Sara in Mysliveček's oratorio *Abramo ed Isacco* alongside Collegium 1704 at the Salzburg Festival and *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* with Sir Mark Elder and the Britten Sinfonia. Further concert appearances include Berlioz *Les Nuits d'Ete* with Irish Chamber Orchestra, *Messiah* with the Orchestre de Chambre de Paris, *Elijah* with the Spanish National Orchestra and Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra, *Christmas Oratorio* with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Handel's *Solomon*, *Alexander's Feast* and Honneger's *Judith* for the Nederlandse Programma Stichting, and Beethoven *Missa Solemnis* with the London Philharmonic Orchestra. In the United States she has worked with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, where she premiered John Harbison's *Symphony No. 6*, the Philadelphia Orchestra for Handel's *Messiah*, the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra for Beethoven *Symphony No. 9*, the Handel and Haydn Society as Juno/Ino in *Semele* and the St Paul Chamber Orchestra in performances of Bach's *St Matthew Passion*.

An accomplished recitalist, Paula has given performances at the Wigmore Hall with both Malcolm Martineau and Sholto Kynoch, the Aldeburgh Festival, the Oxford Lieder Festival, the Shannon International Music Festival, the Chancellor's Concert at the University of Limerick, in Frankfurt and at the Diaghilev Festival in Perm. Last season she released her debut solo album with American pianist Tanya Blaich on Orchid Classics. Titled *I will walk with my love*, the disc explores folk inspired songs and myths and features works by Brahms, Mahler, Debussy and Grieg, as well as traditional Irish folksong.

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