

Heike WESSELS Mezzo/Soprano

Heike Wessels studied at the Folkwang Hochschule Essen and at the Conservatoire National de Strasbourg. She absolved master classes a.o. with Brigitte Fassbaender, Thomas Hampson and Dame Gwyneth Jones and with the renowned Lied accompanists Irwin Gage, Norman Shetler and Axel Bauni.

She is winner of the Alexander Girardi Singing Competition in Coburg and of the Gedok Liedwettbewerb in Wuppertal 2006. She got a scholarship of the Richard Wagner Verband Freiburg and won the International Competition for Young Wagner Voices at the Teatro La Fenice, Venice, in 2006, singing in the final Kundry and Fricka.

She was a member of the theatres in Wuppertal and Braunschweig, at present she is member of Nationaltheater Mannheim, where she is heard as Dalila, Maddalena, Ulrica, Fricka, Larina, Waltraute, Magdalene and Brangäne, Sieglinde, Ortrud, Eboli, Kundry and Gertrud in "Hänsel und Gretel".

Guest contracts brought her to Glyndebourne, Baden Baden, Staatsoper Berlin, where she sang the Alto part in the world premiere of "Seven attempted Escapes from Silence", to Rome with "Florentinische Tragödie", to Berlin Philharmonie with "Walküre" under the baton of Marek Janowski, to Graz as Venus, to Düsseldorf as Sieglinde, to Vienna as Orlofsky, to Essen with "Tales of Hoffmann", she sang Bianca in "Florentinische Tragödie" with London Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of Vladimir Jurowski.

She sang in Frankfurt Ortrud, at Opéra Bastille in Paris "Elektra", in Düsseldorf Sieglinde and Ortrud, in Mannheim Eboli, Sieglinde, Kundry, Santuzza, Fata Morgana in "Love for the Three Oranges", Gertrud in "Hänsel und Gretel" and Brünnhilde in "Ring an einem Abend".

Recent and future engagements until 2022/23 include Sieglinde, Brünnhilde, Ortrud, Kundry, Amneris, Begbick in "Mahagonny", Venus and Herodias in Mannheim, Brünnhilde in Cluj, Kundry at Deutsche Oper Berlin and in Taiwan, Brünnhilde in "Siegfried" and "Walküre" in Düsseldorf and Venus in Kaiserslautern, Modena and Regio Emilia.

Concert engagements brought her to the Menuhin Festival Gstaad, the Estonian Concert Hall Tallinn, the Rheingau Musikfestival, the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome and to the Auditorio Principe Felipe in Oviedo.