

Biography

Ruby Hughes

soprano

16.06.16



Ruby Hughes began her musical studies as a cellist graduating from the Guildhall School of Music in London. She went on to study voice at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater, Munich and the Royal College of Music, London, graduating in 2009.

Holder of a Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award, Shortlisted for a 2014 Royal Philharmonic Society Music Award, Winner of both First Prize and the Audience Prize at the 2009 London Handel Singing Competition and a former BBC New Generation Artist, Ruby Hughes is the daughter of the celebrated Welsh ceramicist Elizabeth Fritsch.

She made her debut at Theater an der Wein in 2009 as Roggiero in Rossini's *Tancredi*, returning as Fortuna in *L'Incoronazione di Poppea*. She has performed Euridice in *L'Orfeo* at Aix-en-Provence Festival, *Sandrina L'infedelta delusa* and *Narcissa-Philemon und Baucis* at the Musikfestspiele Potsdam Sanssouci, *The Indian Queen* at the Schwetzingen Festival, and *Rose Marrant-Street Scene* at the Opéra de Toulon.

In the UK she has performed major roles with English National Opera, Garsington Opera, The Opera Group, Music Theatre Wales and Scottish Opera. She also appeared in Sir Jonathan Miller's acclaimed production of the *St Matthew Passion* at the National Theatre.

In concert, she has sung under conductors including Rinaldo Allesandrini, Ivor Bolton, Laurence Cummings, Thierry Fischer, HK Gruber, Pablo Heras Casado, Philippe Herreweghe, Rene Jacobs, Juanjo Mena, Gianandrea Noseda, Marc Minkowski, Hervé Niquet, Gianandrea Noseda, Thomas Søndergård, John Storgårds, and Osmo Vanska to name a few, and with ensembles such as Les Arts Florissants, all the BBC Orchestras, Britten Sinfonia, Le Concert Spirituel, Manchester Camerata, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Philharmonia Orchestra, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, and Zurich Chamber Orchestra.

Festival appearances have included the Bach Fest Leipzig, BBC Proms, Cheltenham, Edinburgh International, La Folle Journée, Gent Festival OdeGand, Göttingen, Marlboro, Lockenhaus, Manchester International, Spitalfields, and West Cork.

She has broadcast & recorded extensively covering a wide range of repertoire including works by Bach, Barber, Berg, Britten, Crumb, Handel, Haydn, Mahler, Maxwell Davies, Macmillan, Mozart, Schubert & Schumann.

Ruby is a passionate recitalist & works closely with the pianists Julius Drake & Joseph Middleton. In 2016 she released her first solo recital disc 'Nocturnal variations', songs by Schubert, Mahler, Britten and Berg with pianist Joseph Middleton for the Champs Hill label, named BBC Music Magazine's choice of the month. In the same month she appeared on the critically acclaimed disc 'Purcell Songs Realised by Britten' for the same label. A champion of women composers, she recently recorded 'Heroines': a disc dedicated to 17th century women composers for the BIS label, with long-term collaborator Jonas Nordberg, for release in 2017.

She made her US debut in 2015 in a recital with Julius Drake at The Frick Collection in New York and in the 16/17 season will make her Carnegie Hall recital debut to include a commission by Huw Watkins.

Recent engagements include tours with Concerto Köln & Ivor Bolton, and debuts with Akademie für Alte Musik at the Berlin Philharmonie, with the Halle Orchestra, and a recital with Julius Drake at the Wigmore Hall.

Highlights of the 16/17 season include Anders Hillborg's *Lontano in Sonno* with BBC Philharmonic, a song cycle written for her by Judith Weir, Handel arias and duets with Ian Bostridge and WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln, a tour with B'Rock Belgium Baroque Orchestra, and a debut with Music of the Baroque, Chicago. She will also be recording a disc for Chandos records with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment dedicated to Guilia Frasi, Handel's lyric muse as well as Mahler's 2nd Symphony for BIS records with the Minnesota Orchestra and Osmo Vanska.

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