

**Ilse Eerens**  
Soprano



Belgian soprano Ilse Eerens began her vocal studies at the age of 14 at the Lemmens Institute in Louvain/Belgium. She then joined the New Opera Academy in The Netherlands and graduated with a Master's degree, as a student of Jard van Nes.

Most recent engagements include Schubert's Mass in E flat Major with the Sinfonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks under Riccardo Muti, a celebrated role debut as Tschang-haitang in Zemlinsky's *Der Kreidekreis* for Opéra de Lyon, Erste Dame in *Die Zauberflöte* at the Salzburger Festspiele, Pamina at Opera de Lille, her role debut as Melisande in *Pelléas et Mélisande* at Stadttheater Klagenfurt, Beethoven's *Christus am Ölberge* with the Beethovenorchester Bonn under Dirk Kaftan and the title role in Sasha Waltz' production of Toshio Hosokawa's *Matsukaze* at Opera Narodowa in Warsaw and at the New National Theatre Tokyo.

Elsewhere, she has sung the lead role of Marianne in HK Gruber's *Geschichten aus dem Wienerwald* at the Bregenzer Festspiele and Theater an der Wien, La Vierge in Honegger's *Jeanne au Bûcher* and the title-role in Janáček's *Cunning Little Vixen*, both for the Opéra National de Lyon, Kitchenboy in *Rusalka* for the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, Matilda in Rossini's *Elisabetta, regina d'Inghilterra*, at Theater an der Wien, Despina in *Così fan tutte* and Susanna Le Nozze di Figaro, both with the Orchestra of the 18th Century and the soprano part in *Lady Sarashina* by Péter Eötvös at Opera Narodowa in Warsaw and at the Opéra National de Lyon.

In 2020/21, Ms Eerens returns to the Opéra National de Lyon as Hero in Berlioz' *Beatrice et Benedict* and to perform arias by Donizetti and Rossini as part of New Year's concerts. Other concert engagements include Bach's *Johannes-Passion* with the Orchestra National de Radio France, Mendelssohn's *Midsummer Night's Dream* with the Antwerp Symphony and Philippe Herreweghe, Mozart's

*Exsultate jubilate* with the Flemish Radio Choir, Bach cantatas and *Matthäus Passion* with Ton Koopman at the Bachfest Leipzig, Celia in *Lucio Silla* with Choeur Accentus at the Beaune Festival and La Seine Musicale in Paris as well as Schubert's Mass in A flat in Rouen, and Haydn's *Jahreszeiten* with Concerto Köln under Marcus Creed.

A regular guest at La Monnaie in Brussels, her roles for this house have included Pamina, La Vierge, Celia in *Lucio Silla*, Oscar in *Un ballo in maschera*, Jemmy in a concert version of *Guillaume Tell* (also at the Concertgebouw Amsterdam), Noémie in Massenet's *Cendrillon*, Antigone in Enescu's *Oedipe*, Amanda in Ligeti's *Le Grand Macabre*, a part she has also performed at the Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires, Teatro dell'Opera di Roma and at the Adelaide Music Festival in Australia.

Equally sought-after in concert repertoire, she has performed Gottfried von Einem's *Der Prozess* with the Radiosinfonieorchester Wien under HK Gruber at the Salzburg Festival and Wiener Konzerthaus, Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem* with the Orchestre des Champs-Élysées under Philippe Herreweghe, Mahler's 4th Symphony with the Nederlands Radio Philharmonic, Handel's *Israel in Egypt* with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Mozart's Requiem with the Orquesta y Coro Nacionales de España in Madrid and the Gulbenkian Orchestra in Lisbon, Debussy's *La Demoiselle élue* with the City of Birmingham Symphony, Haydn's *Seasons* with the Orchestra of the 18th Century, Mendelssohn's *Lobgesang* and *Paulus* and Bach's *Matthäus Passion* with the MDR Sinfonieorchester Leipzig and the world premiere of Toshio Hosokawa's *Nach dem Sturm* with the Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra.

She has recorded *Nach dem Sturm* with the Orquesta Sinfonia de Euskadi under Jun Maerkl and Dvořák's *Requiem* and *Stabat Mater* with Philippe Herreweghe. The *Stabat Mater* was awarded "Record of the Month" by Gramophone Magazine.

Ms Eerens has worked with conductors such as Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Hartmut Haenchen, Lorenzo Viotti, Kazushi Ono, Peter Dijkstra, Richard Egarr, Ton Koopman, Michael Boder, Jean-Christoph Spinosi, Michael Schönwandt, Kenneth Montgomery, Mark Wigglesworth, Jaap van Zweden, Constantinos Carydis, Frans Bruggen, Claus Peter Flor, Antonello Manacorda and Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla.

Awards include the Arleen Auger prize in the International Vocal Competition in 's-Hertogenbosch in the Netherlands, where she was the only the finalist who excelled in all the three categories of Opera, Oratorio and Lieder, and the 3rd prize at the ARD Musikwettbewerb 2006.

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