

Rachel Speirs

Soprano

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Date of birth: 30/05/1994



Scottish Soprano Rachel Speirs' upcoming engagements include Titania in Longborough Festival Opera's production of *The Fairy Queen/A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Chorus and Modestina (cover) in Rossini's *Il viaggio a Reims* with English Touring Opera, cover Musetta in Hurn Court Opera's *La bohème*, and Chorus in *Das Wunder der Heliane* with Nederlandse Reisopera. Recently she has performed Otie/Squawky in *How to find your name* and Chorus in *The Golden Cockerel* and *La bohème* (ETO), as well as Princess Nekaya in *Utopia Limited* (National G&S Opera Company). Rachel is a graduate of the Royal Northern College of Music where she won the Betty Bannerman Award for French Song and the Kennedy Strauss Award. Rachel is passionate about sharing and creating music in community settings, and is Co-Director of SoundUp Arts CIC, bringing music to people affected by dementia.

ROLES

Musetta (c.)	<i>La bohème</i>	Hurn Court Opera (Lynton and Joy Atkinson)	2023
Titania/Ensemble	<i>The Fairy Queen</i>	Longborough Festival Opera (Polly Graham)	2023
Modestina (c.)	<i>Il viaggio a Reims</i>	English Touring Opera (Valentina Ceschi)	2023
Parrot/Warthog	<i>Zoo!</i>	English Touring Opera	2023
Princess Nekaya	<i>Utopia Ltd.</i>	National G&S Opera Company (Jeff Clarke/John Andrews)	2022
Squawky/Otie/Alien	<i>How to find your name</i>	English Touring Opera (Abigail Kelly)	2022
Lotty	<i>The Soldier's Legacy</i>	Retrospect Opera	2021
Mrs Nordstrom	<i>A Little Night Music</i>	Buxton International Festival (Paul Kerryson/Wyn Davies)	2021
Suor Dolcina	<i>Suor Angelica</i>	Random Opera	2021
Maria Bertram	<i>Mansfield Park</i>	RNCM (Stephen Barlow/Nicholas Kok)	2020
Papagena (Pamina c.)	<i>Die Zauberflote</i>	Flat Pack Opera	2019

CHORUS

<i>Iolanthe</i>	The National G&S Opera Company (John Savournin/John Andrews)	2022
<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i>	NGSOC (Sarah Helsby Hughes/John Andrews)	2022
<i>La bohème</i>	English Touring Opera (Christopher Moon-Little/Dionysis Grammenos)	2022
<i>The Golden Cockerel</i>	English Touring Opera (James Conway/Gerry Cornelius)	2022
<i>Mahler Symphony No. 2</i>	Opera North (Garry Walker)	2021
<i>The Rake's Progress</i>	British Youth Opera (Stephen Unwin/Lionel Friend)	2018

Training:

Royal Northern College of Music
BMus 2013-2017
MMus 2018-2020

Grade 8 Violin | Grade 5 Piano |
Grade 6 ISTD Ballet and Modern
Dance | Enhanced DBS Check

Awards:

Betty Bannerman Award for
French Song 2020

Opera North Chorus Mentorship
Scheme 2020

Elizabeth Harwood Memorial Prize
Finalist 2020

Joyce and Michael Kennedy Award
for Singing Strauss 2019

RECORDINGS

<i>Trois chansons de la renaissance</i>	John Manduell	Divine Arts Records	2022
<i>Songs of Innocence</i>	William Alwyn (arr. David Matthews)	Divine Arts Records	2022
<i>The Soldier's Legacy</i>	G.A. MacFarren	Retrospect Opera	2022
<i>The Light of Love</i>	Paul Carr	EM Records	2021

CONCERT AND ORATORIO

<i>The Creation</i>	Haydn	Prestbury Choral Society	2022
<i>Requiem</i>	Rutter	Leeds Philharmonic Chorus	2022
<i>Requiem</i>	Fauré	Leeds Philharmonic Chorus	2022
<i>Spirit of England</i>	Elgar	Daventry Choral	2022
<i>Messiah (Solos + Choruses)</i>	Handel	Cantores Salicium	2022
<i>Nelson Mass</i>	Haydn	Padgate Choral Society	2022
<i>Ein Deutsches Requiem</i>	Brahms	Leeds Philharmonic Chorus	2022
<i>Requiem Mass</i>	Mozart	Prestbury Choral Society	2022
<i>B Minor Mass</i>	JS Bach	Southport Bach Choir	2021
<i>La Dame de Monte Carlo</i>	Poulenc	Clonterbrook Music Room	2020
<i>Der Hirt auf dem Felsen</i>	Schubert	Music on the Moor Series	2019
<i>Messe Solennelle</i>	Gounod	Chorley Choral Society	2019

LEARNING & PARTICIPATION

Co-Director	SoundUp Arts CIC (Music & Dementia)	N/A
SEND Audiences Artist	English Touring Opera	2022
Audience Officer	English Touring Opera	2022
Artist/Facilitator	Leeds Lieder 'Discovering Lieder'	2022
Singing Teacher	Grange Park Primary Robins	2021
Dementia Support Worker	Together Dementia Support	20-21
Digital Workshop Leader	Healthy Arts CIC	2021
Singing Teacher	Stagecoach Performing Arts	17-20
Workshop Leader	The Sixteen/Streetwise Opera	2019
Chorus Manager	RNCM Chamber Choir	18-20

Please note that a more detailed CV of learning and participation work is available by request.