

# Rachel Speirs

Soprano

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Manchester, UK

Date of birth: 30/05/1994



## Training:

Royal Northern College of Music

BMus 2013-2017

MMus 2018-2020

Opera North Chorus Mentorship Scheme 2020

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

Scottish Soprano Rachel Speirs 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. Recent engagements include the Principal Soprano roles in *How To Find Your Name* for Special Education Needs and Disabilities audiences (English Touring Opera), Mrs Nordstrom in *A Little Night Music* (Buxton International Festival), Lotty in Retrospect Opera's recording of G.A. MacFarren's opera *The Soldier's Legacy*, Brahms *Ein Deutsches Requiem* (Leeds Philharmonic Chorus), and songs by Alwyn and Manduell recorded for Divine Art Records. Rachel joins the National Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company in Summer 2022, and in 2023 will cover the role of Modestina in Rossini's *Il Viaggio a Reims* with ETO, and Musetta in Hurn Court Opera's *La Bohème*. Rachel has extensive experience in learning and participation settings with primary age children, SEND audiences, and people with dementia, and is Co-Director of SoundUp Arts CIC.

## OPERA ROLES

Musetta (cover)	La Bohème	Hurn Court Opera (Lynton and Joy Atkinson)	2023
Modestina (cover)	Il Viaggio a Reims	English Touring Opera (James Conway)	2023
Soprano Roles	Zoo!	English Touring Opera	2023
Squawky/Otie/Alien	How to find your name	English Touring Opera (Abigail Kelly)	2022
Lotty	The Soldier's Legacy	Retrospect Opera	2021
Mrs Nordstrom	A Little Night Music	Buxton International Festival (Paul Kerryson/Wyn Davies)	2021
Suor Dolcina	Suor Angelica	Random Opera	2021
Maria Bertram	Mansfield Park	RNCM (Stephen Barlow/Nicholas Kok)	2020
Papagena (Pamina cover)	Die Zauberflote	Flat Pack Opera (Wendy Silvester/Chris Gill)	2019

## CHORUS EXPERIENCE

Iolanthe	The National G&S Opera Company (John Savournin/John Andrews)	2022
The Pirates of Penzance	NGSOC (Sarah Helsby Hughes/John Andrews)	2022
Utopia Ltd	NGSOC (Jeffrey Clarke/John Andrews)	2022
La Boheme	English Touring Opera (Christopher Moon-Little/Dionysis Grammenos)	2022
The Golden Cockerel	English Touring Opera (James Conway/Gerry Cornelius)	2022
Mahler Symphony No. 2	Opera North (Garry Walker)	2021
'Couch to Chorus' Opera Choruses	Opera North (Oliver Rundell)	2021
The Rake's Progress	British Youth Opera (Stephen Unwin/Lionel Friend)	2018

## RECORDINGS

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

## CONCERT AND ORATORIO

Elgar	Spirit of England	Daventry Choral	2022
Handel	Messiah (Solos + Choruses)	Cantores Salicium	2022
Haydn	Nelson Mass	Padgate Choral Society	2022
Brahms	Ein Deutsches Requiem	Leeds Philharmonic Chorus	2022
Mozart	Requiem Mass	Prestbury Choral Society	2022
JS Bach	B Minor Mass	Southport Bach Choir	2021
Poulenc	La Dame de Monte Carlo	Clonterbrook Music Room Series	2020
Schubert	Der Hirt auf dem Felsen	Music on the Moor Recital Series	2019
Gounod	Messe Solennelle	Chorley Choral Society	2019
JS Bach	Christmas Oratorio	Knaresborough Choral Society	2017
Vivaldi	Gloria	Knaresborough Choral Society	2017

## LEARNING & PARTICIPATION/OTHER RELEVANT WORK

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.

## REFERENCE

References available by request.