FREDRIKA BRILLEMBOURG, Mezzo Soprano

Known for her compelling characterizations of both leading and supporting operatic heroines, mezzo soprano

Fredrika Brillembourg combines expert vocalism with a unique stage presence and passionate acting skills. As the Narrator in the US premiere of Toshio Hosokawa’s *The Raven* she was “***vocally plush and dramatically courageous***”, (Anthony Tomassini, NY Times), “***tireless and astonishingly lithe while singing the impossible solos with sensuality and abiding beauty*,”** (Martin Bernheimer, Financial Times). Ms Brillembourg is at home in classical operatic roles as well as in contemporary music.

Fredrika sang all the main roles from the mezzo repertoire including: Carmen, Charlotte, Marguerite, Brangaene, Amneris and the Principessa de Bouillon. She has appeared at major opera houses including the Berlin Staatsoper unter den Linden, Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie Brussels, De Nederlandse Opera Amsterdam, the Grand Théâtre de Geneve, the Washington National Opera, the Seattle Opera, Teatro la Fenice Venice and Deutsche Oper Berlin; as well as at the Festival d’Aix-en-Provence, MiTo Festival Internazionale de Musica and the Bregenz Festival.

Career highlights include creating the role of Jitsuko Hondo in both the world premiere and Japanese premiere of Toshio Hosokawa's opera *Hanjo*. (Festival Aix en Provence, La Monnaie Brussels and Suntory Hall) and performing at the Komische Oper Berlin (*Candide*, *Le Grand Macabre, Rigoletto, Hansel and Gretel*), the Bergen International Festival (Tan Dun’s *Marco Polo*), the Staatsoper Stuttgart (*Madama Butterfly, Faust, Aida*), the Semperoper Dresden (*Rigoletto, Falstaff*), and the Zurich Opera House (*La Sonnambula).* In concert she sang with the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, The Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, The American Symphony Orchestra and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra under the baton of conductors such as: Sir Antonio Pappano, Sir Jeffrey Tate, Ingo Metzmacher, Daniel Harding, Kazushi Ono, Mark Albrecht, Manfred Honeck and Placido Domingo.

Fredrika’s discography includes: Suzuki (*Madama Butterfly*, Naxos); solo arias with the Berlin Symphoniker,

Stravinsky *Les Noces*, (cond. Sylvain Cambreling), En Hommage, Józef Kofler (Piano, Christoph Slowinski), Bach B minor mass and The Verdi Requiem (cond. Placido Domingo), and on DVD: as Enrichetta di Francia in Bellini’s *I Puritani*, a Francisco Negrin production from De Nederlandse Opera, conducted by Giuliano Carella and as Nikona in Giordano’s *Siberia* from the Vasiliy Barkhatov production, Valentin Uryupin conducting at the 2022 Bregenz Festival. She has also collaborated with stage directors Christof Loy, Willy Decker, Robert Carson, Barrie Kosky, Stephen Wadsworth, Vasily Barkhatov, Martin Kusej,̌ Keith Warner, Anne Teresa de Keersmaeker and Jonathan Miller.

Alongside her opera and concert work Brillembourg wrote, produced, arranged, and performed a one-woman show, *One Touch of Genius*, featuring songs from Broadway musicals by Leonard Bernstein and Kurt Weill originally presented at the Komische Oper Berlin Bernstein 100 Festival. She has hosted a radio show, called *Leitmotifs*, on KCRW Berlin, a NPR station as well as announcing on WQXR, New York City’s classical radio station. At present she is developing an opera project based on the life of a woman war journalist and will be returning to the Semperoper Dresden for a new production of Kaija Saariaho’s *Innocence* in the 2024-25 season with Maxime Pascal conducting and Lorenzo Fioroni producing.