



Anita Watson Soprano

Naiad Ariadne auf Naxos, Royal Opera House

"The excellence of Naiad, Dryad, and Echo (Respectively, Anita Watson, Sarah Castle, and Anna Leese), who accompany Ariadne throughout, was a measure of the high vocal standards of this production. Ms Watson, who obviously has a big future ahead of her.", 1 July 2008

Robert R. Reilly,

Seen and Heard July 2008

Rita, Royal Opera House

"... Watson possesses a pure, easy soprano, and every coloratura run, every roulade, every decoration is deployed to further her thoughtful, convincing and humorous characterisation."

Dave Paxton

www.musicomh.com October 2007

After completing a Bachelor of Music from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Australian soprano Anita Watson graduated with honours from the Australian Opera Studio. She was a member of the Cologne Opera Studio 2006-7 and the Jette Parker Young Artist Programme at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden from 2007-9.

Anita has won prizes in many prestigious competitions amongst them the Australian Singing Competition, the Queen Sonja International Music Competition in Oslo, Neue Stimmen in Germany and the Plácido Domingo Operalia Competition. She was awarded the 1st prize and the audience award at the international ARD Music Competition in Munich in 2009, and the SWR Emmerich-Smola Prize in 2010.

Her performed roles at the Royal Opera House included the title role in Donizetti's *Rita*, Flowergirl (*Parsifal*), First Lady (*Die Zauberflöte*), Naiad (*Ariadne auf Naxos*), Gretel and Dewfairy (*Hänsel und Gretel*) and Second Woman (*Dido and Aeneas*). While at the ROH, she also understudied Contessa (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*) and Mimì (*La Bohème*). Other roles have included the title role in Handel's *Xerxes*, Cleopatra in *Giulio Cesare*, Lucia in *The Rape of Lucretia*, Pedro in *Don Quichotte*, Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro* and Micaëla in *Carmen* for the Australian Opera Studio, Barena in *Jenufa* for Cologne Opera and Ann Putnam in *The Crucible* for IVAI.

Anita has also been heard in many live broadcasts including *Parsifal*, *Don Carlo*, *Mavra* and *Hänsel und Gretel* as well as solo recitals for ABC radio.

Anita has appeared in numerous concerts and recitals in Australia, the USA, Austria, Germany, Japan, Hungary, China, Finland, Israel and the UK, Her oratorio repertoire includes *Carmina Burana*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Tippet's *A Child of our Time*, the Fauré *Requiem*, Mozart's *Vesperae Solennes de Confessore*, Handel's *Messiah*, and Gounod's *Redemption*. She also performed *Beethoven's 9th Symphony* with Antonio Pappano in Rome and Siena with the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia.

Most recently she performed at Den Norske Opera Oslo's New Year's Concert and recorded *Ariadne of Naxos* for Chandos. In spring/summer 2010 Anita will make her house debuts at La fenice in Venice (Governess in *The turn of the screw*) and at the Salzburg Festival (5th Maid) in *Elektra*. In 2011 she will make her debut as Mimì with the Nationale Reisopera in Holland.

Anita Watson's Manager in Australasia is Graham Pushee: graham@artsmanagement.com.au
assisted by Sarah Holloway: sarah@artsmanagement.com.au

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Telephone (+61 2) 9211 9422 Facsimile (+61 2) 9211 9466