



Emma Matthews

Soprano

The Tales of Hoffmann Opera Australia

".....It is not just her brilliant technique, warm tone and unflinching control; her characterization of each role is total, aided by her superb acting ability and magnetic personality.She is without doubt the hottest opera star in Australia".

John Grant, *Opera Now* January/February 2008

Lulu Opera Australia

"Emma Matthews, who began her career as a very light coloratura, has metamorphosed into the sort of soprano that Berg could only have dreamed about. Matthews is superb. Her high flexible soprano has become even more brilliant in colour and texture, and her coloratura still more effortlessly dazzling than before."

Maria Prerauer
Opera January 2004

I Capuleti e i Montecchi Opera Australia

"Matthews sang with superbly languorous bell canto colour and shape..."

Peter McCallum, *Sydney Morning Herald*, August 2009

Soprano Emma Matthews is a Principal Artist with Opera Australia, for which she made her debut as Damigella in Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea* in 1993. She is now regarded as one of Australia's most outstanding sopranos, equally at home with opera and concert repertoire.

For Opera Australia Emma has sung the title roles in *Lulu*, *Lakmé*, *The Cunning Little Vixen* and *Lucia di Lammermoor*. Other roles for the company have included Cleopatra in *Julius Caesar*, Zwaantie in *Batavia*, Juliette in *Romeo and Juliette*, the four heroines in *The Tales of Hoffmann*, Rosina in *The Barber of Seville*, Kostanze and Blonde in *The Abduction from the Seraglio*, Papagena and Pamina in *The Magic Flute*, Marie in *La Fille du Regiment*, Oscar in *Un Ballo in Maschera* and Sophie in *Der Rosenkavalier* and Almirena in *Rinaldo*.

Emma is equally in demand on the concert platform, embracing a wide repertoire including the Requiems of Mozart, Fauré and Brahms, Mahler Symphonies 2 and 4, Poulenc, Villa Lobos, Haydn Masses and Handel's Messiah. Her Festival engagements include Philomele in *The Love of the Nightingale* by Richard Mills in Perth, Ismene in *Mitridate*, in Sydney, and appearances in Melbourne, Adelaide and Huntington Festivals.

In 2008 Emma appeared as a special guest with José Carreras in his Sydney concerts, the New Year's Eve Gala for Opera Australia and in Mozart's C minor Mass with Sir Charles Mackerras and the Sydney Symphony.

In 2009 Emma made two significant role debuts as Giulietta in Bellini's *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* for Opera Australia and as Gilda in *Rigoletto* for Opera Queensland, and repeated her highly successful portrayals of the four heroines in *The Tales of Hoffmann* for the State Opera of South Australia. Her solo album of bel canto arias, *Emma Matthews in Monte Carlo* was recently released by Universal / ABC Classics to much acclaim.

This year Emma made her UK debut at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden in the title role of *The Cunning Little Vixen*. Also in 2010, for Opera Australia, she will perform Amina in *La Sonnambula* and Gilda in *Rigoletto*. She also performs the solo soprano part in Mahler's *Symphony no. 4* with both Orchestre Philharmonique de Monte Carlo with conductor Yakov Kreizberg, and also the Sydney Symphony with Vladimir Ashkenazy.

Emma Matthews is one of Australia's most acclaimed and awarded singers having received four Helpmann Awards (*The Love of a Nightingale*, *Arabella*, *Lakme* and *Lulu*), a Mo Award (Classical Performer of the Year) and eight Green Room Awards (*Lulu*, *Clemenza di Tito*, *Rinaldo*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Batavia*, *Signor Bruschino*, *Julius Caesar* and *Lakme*). She has also been the recipient of the Remy Martin Australian Opera Award.

Emma Matthew's Manager Worldwide is Graham Pushee: graham@artsmanagement.com.au
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