

High lyric soprano Heather Phillips, whose performances have been described by Opera News as “beautiful” and “shimmering”, is continuing to garner critical acclaim with reputable performances on the opera and concert stage.

For the 2019 - 2020 season, Ms. Phillips joined the Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra for Orff's *Carmina Burana* and before the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown, was scheduled to make her German debut at Oper Frankfurt in the title role of Rossini's *Bianca e Falliero* in a new production by director Tilmann Köhler as well as her Austrian debut in the same role at the Tiroler Festspiele Erl in the Summer of 2020.

The 2018 - 2019 season brought Ms. Phillips debuts with New Orleans Opera as Konstanze in Mozart's *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, Opera Naples as Micaëla in *Carmen* and The Austin Symphony Orchestra as well as The Oregon Music Festival as the soloist in Brahms's *Ein Deutsches Requiem*. Ms. Phillips also returned to the Boise Philharmonic as soprano soloist in Handel's *Messiah* and The Canton Symphony Orchestra as soprano soloist in Haydn's *Mass in the Time of War*. In the fall of 2018, she joined the roster of the San Francisco Opera for their production of Strauss's *Arabella*, covering the title role.

During the 2017-2018 season, Miss Phillips debuted with Austin Lyric Opera as Micaëla in *Carmen* and on the concert stage, she appeared as soprano soloist in Handel's *Messiah* with the Boise Philharmonic, soprano soloist in *Carmina Burana* with both the Boise Philharmonic and the Valley Symphony Orchestra in Texas and made her New York Philharmonic debut as soprano soloist in Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy* at Lincoln Center.

During the 2016-2017 season, Ms. Phillips made her Arizona Opera debut as Nannetta in *Falstaff* and also debuted with Opera Philadelphia reprising the role of Katie in Jennifer Higdon's *Cold Mountain*, a role she created at the Santa Fe Opera and on the Grammy nominated original cast recording. She returned to Opera Philadelphia later that same season for performances of the composer workshop series, *Double Exposure*. On the concert stage she appeared as the soprano soloist in Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with the Grammy nominated ensemble True Concord and returned to the Ravinia Festival and the Tucson Desert Song Festival as a recitalist in collaboration with pianist Kevin Murphy. Other recent previous performances include *Elvira* in Rossini's *L'italiana in Algeri* at Lyric Opera of Kansas City, *Micaëla* in *Carmen* with Kentucky Opera, *Zerlina* in *Don Giovanni* at Opera Southwest, *Musetta* in *La bohème* at the Crested Butte Music Festival and *Barbarina* in *Le nozze di Figaro* at Cincinnati Opera.

An alumna of the Santa Fe Opera apprentice program, she joined the company for their 2014 and 2015 seasons, covering *Micaëla* in *Carmen* and then *Gilda* in *Rigoletto*. She also performed as a soloist in a lieder recital with Harry Bickett at the piano for the chamber music series, *Performance Santa Fe*. The Santa Fe Opera apprentice scenes showcase saw her as *Luisa* (Verdi's *Luisa Miller*) and as *La Contessa* (Rossini's *Il Viaggio A Reims*). While as a fellow at the Aspen Music Festival, she sang the role of *Helena* in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* under the baton of Jane Glover.

Ms. Phillips has received many awards including top honors in the 2015 Gerda Lissner International Vocal Competition, the Licia Albanese-Puccini Foundation and the Giulio Gari International Vocal Competition. She is also the recipient of one of the Santa Fe Opera's outstanding apprentice singer awards. Also in 2014 Ms. Phillips advanced in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, winning the Connecticut district and advancing to the New England Regional Finals where she was awarded the 3rd place prize. In previous years, she has also received recognition and awards from the George London Foundation, Kurt Weill Foundation's Lotte Lenya Competition, Marcello Giordani Foundation, Irma M. Cooper Vocal Competition, Schuyler Foundation Competition for Career Bridges, National Opera Association

Vocal Competition, Orpheus Vocal Competition, Violetta Dupont Vocal Competition, and the Anna Sosenko Assist Trust. In 2013 she made her Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall debut as a finalist in the Nico Castel Master Singer Competition and in the same year was selected to represent the United States as a finalist in the Queen Sonja International Vocal Competition in Oslo, Norway.

Ms. Phillips received both her Master's and Bachelor's degrees from the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music. Before her collegiate operatic studies began, Ms. Phillips trained and performed as a pianist and flautist for 10 years, performing as an adolescent with the Canton Youth Symphony Orchestra as a flautist and throughout the community as a volunteer outreach performer on piano, flute and voice with the McDowell Music Club of her hometown of Canton, Ohio.

Her private teaching career spans over 10 years, with her most recent teaching being with the ArtSmart program, a national non-profit organization in the USA that provides one-on-one mentorship and music lessons to underprivileged teens. When on the road performing, she continues her arts advocacy work by serving as marketing coordinator and curriculum advisor for ArtSmart. Other teaching engagements have included teaching residencies and masterclasses at the Aspen Music Festival and School (high school division) as well as Texas State University.

She currently resides in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. To learn more about Heather's career, please visit her official website at www.heatherphillipssoprano.com or connect with her on her social media channels.