

Artistainternational

Künstlermanagement Oper, Konzert und Lied



NINA VAN ESSEN **MEZZO-SOPRANO**

Nina van Essen, in what is, remarkably, her role debut as Rosina, makes the part sound as if it was written for her, with clarity, wit, lyricism and charm. Financial Times, 20 January 2020

Since the 2019/20 season, Nina van Essen has been a member of Staatsoper Hannover, where her repertoire includes Dorabella in Mozart's *Così fan tutte* and Cherubino in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*, Rosina in Rossini's *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and *Il piacere* in an adapted version of Handel's *La bellezza ravveduta nel trionfo del tempo e del disinganno*. During the 2022/23 season, she will sing the Kitchen Boy in Dvořák's *Rusalka* and Ruggiero in Handel's *Alcina*, amongst many other parts.

Born in 1994, the Nederlandse mezzo-soprano completed her studies at Koninklijk Conservatorium Den Haag with summa cum laude. She worked with Sasja Hunnago at Dutch National Opera Academy with a scholarship from the Miluška Duffková Foundation. As an Erasmus exchange student, she studied at the Conservatoire national supérieur de musique et de danse de Lyon in 2014-15, working with Isabelle Germain, Françoise Pollet and coach Fabrice Boulanger. She also took part in the "Junge Talente" programme at the Koninklijk Conservatorium Den Haag, masterclasses and summer courses. At the 52nd Internationaal Vocalisten Concours 's-Hertogenbosch 2018, Nina van Essen was awarded both the Annett Concert Prize and the Audience Prize.

In 2019, the mezzo-soprano performed Gwendolen Fairfax in the Swiss premiere of Barry's *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Théâtre Equilibre Fribourg, followed by the French premiere at Théâtre de l'Athénée in Paris. During the 2016/17 season, the Dutch artist performed the Madrigal Singer in Puccini's *Manon Lescaut* at Dutch National Opera. In 2017, she sang Hänsel in Humperdinck's *Hänsel und Gretel* at Amsterdam's Grachtenfestival and made her debuts at Théâtre Equilibre Fribourg and Théâtre de l'Athénée in Paris singing Masha in Shostakovich's *Moscow Cheryomushki*.

In 2018, Nina van Essen performed several parts in Delius' *A Village Romeo and Juliet* at Amsterdam's Concertgebouw; earlier that year she has sung the title role in Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia* and Dorabella in Mozart's *Così fan tutte* in The Netherlands. She worked with directors including Andrea Breth, Julien Chavaz, Nicola Hümpel, Immo Karaman, Béatrice Lachaussée, Lydia Steier, and Elisabeth Stöppler.

As a concert soloist, Nina van Essen's concert repertoire includes Bruckner's *Requiem*, Franck's *Die sieben Worte Jesu am Kreuz*, Mozart's *Mass in C*, Palmeri's *Misa Buenos Aires*, Rossini's *Petite messe solennelle* and Saint-Saëns' *Christmas Oratorio*.

She has performed under the baton of conductors including Mark Elder, Harmut Haenchen, Antony Hermus, Alexander Joel, Reinbert de Leeuw, Andrea Quinn, Servaas Schreuders and Stephan Zilias and with orchestras including Het Residentie Orkest, Nederlands Philharmonisch Orkest, Philharmonie Zuidnederland and Radio Filharmonisch Orkest.