



## Sunyoung Seo *soprano*



South Korean soprano Sunyoung Seo was born in Pusan, and studied singing at the Korea National University of Arts in Seoul, where she received her Bachelor's degree in 2006 and Master of Music degree in 2009 with Hans Choi. While still a student in Seoul, she performed her first operatic role as Adina in Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore*.

A DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst) scholarship enabled her to come to Europe and to study at the Robert Schumann Musikhochschule in Düsseldorf, where she obtained her Konzertexamen under the tutelage of Professor Michaela Krämer in 2011. At the Hochschule, she performed such roles as the Contessa Almaviva *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Mimi *La Bohème*, and the title role in Puccini's *Suor Angelica*. With support from Westdeutscher Rundfunk (WDR) she recorded a CD album of romances and arias. From 2011 to 2015 Sunyoung was a member of the ensemble at Theater Basel where her roles included the **title role** in *Rusalka*, Micaëla *Carmen*, **Salud** in Falla's *La vida Breve*, the **title role** in *Katja Kabanova*, **Amelia** *Un ballo in Maschera*, **Desdemona** in Verdi's *Otello*, **Elettra** *Idomeneo*, **Elsa** *Lohengrin*, and **Tatiana** *Eugene Onegin*.

Sunyoung has worked with such international conductors as Christian Thielemann, Valery Gergiev, Myung-whun Chung, John Fiore, Axel Kober, Gabriel Feltz, John Luther, Enrico Delamboye, Giuliano Betta, Andrea Marcon, and Thomas Gabrisch. She has performed with the following orchestras: Wiener Philharmoniker, London Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonieorchester Basel, Mariinsky Orchestra, Munich Radio Orchestra, Berner Symphonieorchester, Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra, and NHK Symphony Orchestra. She has performed in the following theaters: Barbican Centre, Wiener Konzerthaus, Carnegie Hall, Tchaikovsky Concert Hall, Mariinsky Theatre Concert Hall, Stadtcasino Basel, and Konzert Theater Bern.

In competition, she has won the first prize at the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow and St. Petersburg (Russia, July 2011), first at the Maria Callas Grand Prix Competition in Athens (Greece, March 2011), first at the Francisco Vicas International Vocalists' Contest in Barcelona (Spain, January 2010), and second prize at the International ARD Music Competition in Munich (Germany, September 2009). She was also selected as 2011's best Soprano in Germany's Nordrhein-Westfalen.

Sunyoung is now a freelance soprano and her recent performances and roles include **Cio-Cio San** *Madama Butterfly* at the Opéra National de Lorraine, **Santuzza** *Cavalleria rusticana* and **Elsa** *Lohengrin* in Seoul, her United Kingdom debut as **Liu** *Turandot* for Opera North, and **Katja** *Katja Kabanova* at the Hamburgischer Staatsoper, as well as **Ortlinde** *Die Walküre* at the Deutsche Oper, Berlin, the **title role** in *Rusalka* and **Elisabetta** *Don Carlo* in Daegu.

Her future plans include her first **Tosca** at the Opéra de Dijon next spring.