

STEPHENS ARTISTS MANAGEMENT

International Representation

Soula Parassidis

Full Lyric Soprano

Soprano Soula Parassidis combines vocal opulence and exquisite technique with a naturally elegant stage presence that makes her supremely suited to portray the Mozartian heroines.

Ms. Parassidis returns to the stage of Opera Leipzig in 2011/12 for her third season with the company. She will reprise her characterization of **Fiordiligi** in *Così fan tutte*, as well as **Gretel** in *Hänsel und Gretel*. Role debuts this season include: **Pamina** in *Die Zauberflöte*, **Jenny** in *Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny*, and cover for **Violetta** in *La Traviata*.

In previous seasons at Opera Leipzig, Ms. Parassidis has performed **Zerlina** in *Don Giovanni*, **Frasquita** in *Carmen*, **Woglinde** in *Das Rheingold*, **Blumenmädchen** in *Parsifal*, **Alceste** in Händel's *Admeto*, **Artemis** in *Iphigénie en Tauride*, **Louise Michel** in Nono's *Al gran sole carico d'amore*, **High Priestess** in *Aida*, and **5th Maid** in *Elektra*. She was cover for **Musetta** in *La Bohème* and sang the leading roles of **Gretel** and **Fiordiligi**.

Soula Parassidis' made her European debut in 2007 at the Berlin Philharmonie as **Fiordiligi**, a role she performed again on tour in France with the Baroque Ensemble Philidor, and in 2009 she sang **Diane** in *Orphee aux Enfers* with the Salzburg Camerata at the prestigious Aix-en-Provence festival.

A frequent presence on the concert stage, Ms. Parassidis has performed at the Rudolfinum in Prague singing Henri Dutilleux's *Correspondances*, and at the Attersee Festival with the Salzburg Orchester Solisten singing Wagner's *Wesendonck Lieder*. She was soprano soloist in the World Premiere performance of Schenker's *Alter Mann lost deutsche Frage* at Opera Leipzig and sang Villa-Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras* with the Schenberg Symphony Orchestra at the Waldbühne in Berlin.

A native of Vancouver, Ms. Parassidis studied classical flute, speech, and drama before beginning her vocal training at the University of British Columbia and the Vancouver Academy of Music. She completed her formal studies in 2008 with Cheryl Studer at the Hochschule für Musik in Würzburg.

Soula Parassidis is recipient of numerous prizes and awards, including district and regional prize winner in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, and most recently received a generous grant from Canada Council for the Arts.

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Opera

Jenny	<i>Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny</i>	Opera Leipzig	2012
Violetta (c)	<i>La Traviata</i>	Opera Leipzig	2012
Pamina	<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>	Opera Leipzig	2011/12
Fiordiligi	<i>Così fan tutte</i>	Opera Leipzig	2011/12
Gretel	<i>Hänsel und Gretel</i>	Opera Leipzig	2011
5 th Maid	<i>Elektra</i>	Opera Leipzig	2011
Musetta (c)	<i>La Bohème</i>	Opera Leipzig	2011
High Priestess	<i>Aida</i>	Opera Leipzig	2011
Fiordiligi	<i>Così fan tutte</i>	Opera Leipzig	2011
Blumenmädchen	<i>Parsifal</i>	Opera Leipzig	2011
Gretel	<i>Hänsel und Gretel</i>	Opera Leipzig	2010/11
Alceste	<i>Admeto</i>	Opera Leipzig	2010/11
Frasquita	<i>Carmen</i>	Opera Leipzig	2010
Woglinde	<i>Das Rheingold</i>	Opera Leipzig	2010
Zerlina	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	Opera Leipzig	2009/10
Louise Michel	<i>Al gran sole carico d'amore</i>	Opera Leipzig	2009
Diane	<i>Orphée aux Enfers</i>	Aix-en-Provence Festival	2009
Fiordiligi	<i>Così fan tutte</i>	Ensemble Philidor (tour)	2009
Lucia (c)	<i>Lucia di Lammermoor</i>	Netherlands Opera	2009

Concert & Oratorio

Wagner	<i>Wesendonck Lieder</i>	Salzburg Orchester Solisten	2011
Zemlinsky	<i>Maien blumen blühten überall</i>	Gewandhausorchester Sextett	2011
Verdi	<i>La Traviata</i> (selections)	Opera Leipzig	2010
Sarti	<i>Giulio Sabino</i> (selections)	Opera Leipzig	2010
Weill/Schumann	<i>Frauentanz/Frauenliebe und Leben</i>	Gohliser Schösschen	2010
Schenker	<i>Alter Mann lost Deutsche Frage</i> (World Premiere)	Opera Leipzig with TromboNova	2009
Weill	<i>Frauentanz</i>	Ensemble Alkan	2009
Dutilleux	<i>Correspondances</i>	Czech Philharmonic Orchestra	2008
Villa-Lobos	<i>Bachianas Brasileiras</i>	Schoenberg Symphony Orchestra	2008
Mozart	<i>Così fan tutte</i> (selections)	Berlin Sibelius Orchestra	2007

Awards

Winner	Canada Council for the Arts Career Development Prize	2010
Winner	Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions Encouragement Award	2007
Regional Finalist	Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, Pacific Northwest	2007
Winner	Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, Western Canada	2006

Education

Artist Diploma	Vancouver Academy of Music	2007
B.M.	University of British Columbia	2004

Teachers, Master classes & Coaches

Cheryl Studer	Karen Armstrong	Brigitte Fassbänder	Mirella Freni
Michael Abramovich	David Walsh	Martin Fischer-Dieskau	Yves Abel
Barbara Dever	Jeannette Aster	Dean Williamson	Edith Wiens
Cynthia Munzer	Craig Ruthenberg	Irving Guttman	

Conductors & Directors

Ulf Schirmer	Andreas Schüller	Federico Maria Sardelli	William Lacey
Johannes Harneit	Alain Altinoglu	François Bazola	Paolo Carignani
Peter Konwitschny	Andreas Homoki	Ralf Nürnberger	Tobias Kratzer
Roland Aeschlimann	Birgit Eckenweber	Tatjana Gürbaca	

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Reviews

“Soula Parassidis steals the show as Fiordiligi with an unusually beautiful voice, cleanly accented, and full of vocal drama.”

NEUE MUSIK ZEITUNG

“Nothing but praises to sing for Soula Parassidis, a more than promising young singer. Her timber is beautiful and velvety in all tessituras, her vocal line is conducted with assurance and authority, and her coloratura is tasteful with the right amount of panache. She delivers a ‘Come scoglio’ full of character before burning up the stage with her tremendous acting skills in the second act. Her rendering of ‘Per pieta’ is sincere, and full of ardent touches. Overall, this production was a great success thanks to the director, and the discovery of Soula Parassidis, a singer we will gladly hear again.”

CLASSIQUE INFO

“Soula Parassidis is brilliant as Fiordiligi - her singing and acting are enchanting.”

MUSIK IN DRESDEN

“Alceste, the most complex character in the drama was sung by Soula Parassidis, a soprano of impressive agility who touchingly followed the figure through the changing moods of loss, sorrow, fury and the desire for revenge.”

OPERA TODAY

“Soula Parassidis sings Alceste with sensitivity and queenly grandeur.”

LEIPZIG ALMANACH

“In her first aria ‘Liebe Augen’, Soula Parassidis sang with luminous, soft pastel colors, which contrasted wonderfully to her great dramatic line in the expressively phrased ‘Eifersucht, die rasende furie’. She never sounded overexerted, but rather sang effortlessly, with abandonment.”

OPERA POINT

“Soula Parassidis is heartbreakingly captivating as Alceste, A.k.a Grace Kelly.”

LEIPZIGER VOLKSEITUNG

“As Rosalinde, Soula Parassidis had a classy, Nicole Kidman-like carriage, and boasted a soprano as sweet as it was strong.”

THE GEORGIA STRAIGHT

“Aix-en-Provence Festival: Soula Parassidis as Diane was entertaining, and full of personality.”

LE MONDE