Jamie Barton

Mezzo-Soprano

Jamie Barton’s iconic career was launched with her double victory (First and Song Prize) at the 2013 BBC Cardiff Singer of the World Competition. The Richard Tucker Award in 2015 and Metropolitan Opera’s Beverly Sills Artist Award in 2017 followed, and she has since established her position as one of the finest mezzo-sopranos in the world. A trailblazer for inclusion and diversity in the arts, she made history - and raised the rainbow flag - at the Last Night of the Proms 2019 which was broadcast worldwide on television and on BBC Radio 3, conducted by Sakari Oramo.

A favourite at the Metropolitan Opera, Barton’s notable appearances have included Eboli in their new production of *Don Carlos*, Mère Marie (*Les Dialogues de Carmelites),* the title role in Gluck’s *Orfeo*, Elisabetta (*Maria Stuarda*), Adalgisa (*Norma*), and this season as Azucena (*Il trovatore*) in David McVicar’s production under Daniele Callegari. Barton’s remarkable artistry has been recognised on the most prestigious European stages in recent seasons, including her return to Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as Azucena in Adele Thomas’ new production of *Il trovatore* under Sir Antonio Pappano and reprising her formidable Brangäne (*Tristan und Isolde*) at Bayerische Staatsoper under Juraj Valčuha. Previously, she sang Azucena (*Il trovatore*) for her debut at Bayerische Staastoper under Asher Fisch, Eboli (*Don Carlo*) at Deutsche Oper, Berlin under Roberto Rizzi-Brignoli, Amneris (*Aida*) under Isabel Rubio at Teatro Real, Madrid, and Brangäne (*Tristan und Isolde*) at the Festival d’Aix en Provence in a new production by Simon Stone under Sir Simon Rattle which was broadcast and streamed worldwide on Arte. This season Jamie makes her anticipated house and role debut as Baba the Turk (*The Rake’s Progress*) for Opéra National de Paris under Susanna Mälkki.

In concert, Barton has collaborated with major conductors including Marin Alsop for both Brahms’ *Alto Rhapsody* with Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment in her BBC Proms debut and Bernstein’s Symphony No.1 for her London Symphony Orchestra debut, both Sir Andrew Davis and Sir Antonio Pappano for Verdi’s Messa da Requiem with Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, and James Gaffigan for Mahler’s Symphony No.2 at Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía. Recent concert highlights include Jamie’s return to Valencia for her first performance of *Wesendonck Lieder* under James Gaffigan, Mahler’s Symphony No.8with Orchestre de Paris under Daniel Harding, her first Waldtaube (*Gurrelieder)* with Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks under Sir Simon Rattle, and her return to the BBC Proms for *Rückert Lieder* with BBC Symphony Orchestra under Dalia Stasevska. Selected highlights in the upcoming season include *Das Lied von der Erde* with Danish National Symphony Orchestra under Fabio Luisi, *Gurrelieder* with the NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchester and Alan Gilbert, *La Damnation de Faust* with Gulbenkian Orchestra under Hannu Lintu, and *The Dream of Gerontius* with WDR Sinfonieorchester and Cristian Măcelaru.

Continuing to challenge the idea of identity and gender, Barton has drawn crowds with programmes led by female composers at London’s Wigmore Hall, New York’s Carnegie Hall, Tanglewood Festival, Zankel Hall, the Celebrity Series in Boston, Matinée Musicale Cincinnati, and at the Kennedy Center in Washington as part of Renée Fleming’s VOICES series. Her latest CD release, *Unexpected Shadows*, with Jake Heggie is a celebration of powerful, exceptional women and was released by Pentatone to unanimous critical acclaim. This season Jamie returns to the Wigmore Hall to present a new programme in collaboration with James Baillieu.

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