

Allison COOK

Mezzo-soprano

Allison Cook's reputation as one of today's foremost exponents of contemporary and 20th century repertoire has been firmly established through the recent creation of a range of formidable characters.

Recently, Allison made her role debut as **Salome** in **Adina Jacobs'** new production for English National Opera, garnering Allison praise for her committed performance and "gleaming tone" (Opera Magazine). Equally, Allison's interpretation of the **Duchess** in Thomas Adès' *Powder Her Face* has found a special place in her repertoire after tour-de-force performances in New York, Québec, Warsaw and Brussels. Other roles of note include **Marie** in *Wozzeck*, **Judith** in *Bluebeard's Castle*, Schoenberg's **Erwartung**, and Kaija Saariaho's **Émilie**.

Last seasons included Allison's return to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden in the first staged performances of Gerald Barry's **Alice's Adventures Under Ground** conducted by Thomas Adès, as well as her return to Teatro alla Scala as the **Marquise de Merteuil** in Luca Francesconi's *Quartett*. This role in particular has earned Allison unanimous acclaim, from her first performances at La Scala to subsequent appearances at Gran Teatre del Liceu, Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie, Teatr Wielki, Teatro Colón, Buenos Aires, as well as at Wiener Festwochen, La Cité de la Musique, and the Holland and Strasbourg Festivals. Allison Cook also sang **Judith** in *Bluebeard's Castle* at the Enescu Festival under Cristian Mandeal, and Saariaho's *Émilie Suite* with Gävle Symphony Orchestra.

An artist of phenomenal versatility and vocal range, other recent highlights include the world-premiere of Casablancas' **Enigma De Lea** for Gran Teatre del Liceu, **Miss Jessel** in Kasper Holten's *The Turn of the Screw* for Teatro alla Scala conducted by Christoph Eschenbach, **Judith** in Mariusz Trelinski's pivotal production of *Bluebeard's Castle* for Teatr Wielki, and Allison's debut last season with the Berliner Philharmoniker in *The Diary of One Who Disappeared*. At the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Cook has appeared in **Wozzeck**, Turnage's **Anna Nicole** and, most recently, in Krzysztof Warlikowski's new production of Janacek's **From the House of the Dead**.

Looking ahead Allison will make her house debut in Zurich in a new production of Roman Haubenstock-Ramati's **Amerika**, conducted by Gabriel Feltz and directed by Sebastian Baumgarten, sing the role of **The foreign princess** (Rusalka) in Bergen, return to the Liceu for **Bluebeard** and create a new comission by Errollyn Wallen at the Barbican, London.