

Lauryna Bendžiūnaitė is a Lithuanian soprano who studied at the Lithuanian Music and Theatre Academy and the Royal Academy of Music, London, and subsequently with Dame Kiri te Kanawa.

Following her early appearances as a member of Vilnius City Opera and as a guest artist with the Lithuanian National Opera and the Royal Swedish Opera, she then joined the ensemble at Stuttgart State Opera where her roles included Musetta, Ännchen, Susanna, Zerlina, Dalinda (*Ariodante*), Karolka and die Dirne (*Reigen*) under Sylvain Cambreling, Daniele Rustioni, Kyrill Karabits, Ben Gernon and Crystian Curnyn.

This season she returns to the Opéra National du Rhin to sing Despina in Mozart's *Così fan tutte* following her previous appearance as Susanna in *Le Nozze de Figaro*.

Her concert repertoire is wide, ranging from Purcell to Schoenberg and Abrahamsen. She has appeared with The Hamburg Symphony Orchestra, Netherlands Philharmonic orchestra, Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra, Lithuanian State Symphony Orchestra, Lithuanian National Orchestra and Malmö Symphony Orchestra and on tour with the Basle Chamber Orchestra in halls such as Elbphilharmonie, Lucerne KKL, Dresden Frauenkirche, Stuttgart Liederhalle.

She opened this season with a recital of songs by Britten, Bernstein and Amy Beach for Lithuanian TV. In the Contemporary Music festival Gaida she sang *Let me tell you* by Hans Abrahamsen which she will perform again with the National Orchestra next season. With the State Symphony Orchestra she will sing Britten's *Quatre Chansons Françaises* and Lutosławski's *Silesian Tryptique*. She will return to Hamburg Symphony Orchestra for Fauré Requiem with Sylvain Cambreling.

As Cultural Ambassador for Neringa-Cultural Capital 2021 Lauryna organised a production of Handel's *Acis and Galatea*, singing the role of Galatea, under the musical direction of Trevor Pinnock with whom she has sung the chamber version of Mahler's 4th Symphony in the Wigmore Hall and Schubert's *Lazarus* in the Potsdam Winter Opera.