



Serena Sáenz

Soprano

Born in 1994, Spanish soprano Serena Sáenz studied at the Liceu Conservatoire in Barcelona with Prof. Dolors Aldea and at the Hochschule für Musik 'Hanns Eisler' in Berlin with Prof. Anna Korondi.

In 2019, during her first season as a member of the Staatsoper Berlin International Opera Studio, Serena was due to sing Papagena when at short notice she was asked to jump in as Pamina for the opening night of Yuval Sharon's production of *Die Zauberflöte*, conducted by Alondra de la Parra. Subsequent appearances for the house included further performances of Pamina, and three notable role debuts: *Frasquita Carmen* and *Der Waldvogel Siegfried*, both conducted by Daniel Barenboim, and *Zerlina Don Giovanni* with Pablo Heras-Casado. This season Serena returns to Staatsoper Berlin as a guest artist to reprise Pamina *Die Zauberflöte* and to give her role debut as *Zerbinetta Ariadne auf Naxos*, in a new production conducted by Thomas Guggeis. In the summer she also makes her debut for Bregenzer Festspiele, singing *Contessa Ceprano* in their production of *Rigoletto* on the lake, conducted by Enrique Mazzola.

Previously for Staatsoper Berlin Serena has performed *Taumännchen Hänsel und Gretel*, *Lauretta Betrothal in a Monastery*, *Contessa Ceprano* and *Paggio Rigoletto*, *Dienerin 1/Kinderstimme 1 Die Frau ohne Schatten*, *Eine Hirtin Hippolyte et Aricie*, and *Papagena Die Zauberflöte*. Further operatic engagements have included *Isabella* in Rossini *L'inganno felice*, *Adina L'elisir d'amore* and *La Comtesse Adèle Il Comte Ory* for Teatro Sarrià in Barcelona; *Clarice* in Haydn *Il Mondo della Luna* at the 'Hanns Eisler' Conservatory; *Gretel Hänsel und Gretel* at the Opernakademie Wiekersheim; *Alice Le Comte Ory* and *Chiara Il Conte di Marsico* at the Rossini in Wildbad Festival; and *Susanna Le Nozze di Figaro* (in concert) with Orfeo Catalá.

Recent/future concert highlights include her recital debut for the Palau de la Música Catalana, where she also performed *Carmina Burana* under Simon Halsey, her debut for the Pierre Boulez-Saal performing a Scarlatti programme with Accademia Bizantina as part of Staatsoper Berlin's Barocktage festival, and Mozart *Die Schuldigkeit des ersten Gebots* (Weltgeist) with Europa Galante and Fabio Biondi for the closing concert of the Salzburg Mozartwoche.

In January 2018 Serena was awarded both the Mozart Prize and the Accademia Chigiana di Siena Prize at the Viñas International Singing Contest in Barcelona. Further awards have included the International Gesangswettbewerb 'Ferruccio Tagliavini' in Austria and the Concours International de Chant in Mâcon, France. She has also participated in masterclasses with Mariella Devia, Wolfram Rieger, Montserrat Caballé and Riccardo Frizza. Alongside her musical studies, Serena trained in ballet and modern dance in her hometown of Barcelona.