



CONSTANCE HELLER, MAG. ART.

MEZZOSOPRAN/ALT

Mezzo soprano Constance Heller was born and raised in the picturesque city of Laufen, located in Upper Bavaria's Berchtesgadener Land. She began appearing on stage while still in her school years with first performances of lead roles in mystery plays by Cesar Bresgen. This experience kindled her interest in singing as a career, and after finishing secondary school she went on to study at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, earning a Master of Arts degree with distinction. While still a student, she also made her operatic debut at the Giessen Theatre in Offenbach's „Tales of Hoffmann“, in the twin mezzo soprano roles of the Muse and Nicklausse. Regular opera and concert appearances followed.

In 2006, Constance Heller made her debut at the **Berlin State Opera** with the role of „Anna Kennedy“ in „Maria Stuarda“ and since then has

appeared in „Die Zauberflöte“, „Faust“, „Elektra“, „Der Spieler“, and „Parsifal“ (with Placido Domingo in the title role) with the company. She also sang in „Moses und Aron“ in Tokyo during the Berlin State Opera's tour of Japan. In addition to the Berlin State Opera, Heller has also been working regularly with the **Semperoper in Dresden**, and has been heard in their productions of „Faust“, „Elektra“ and Wagner's „Ring cycle“.

Other recent appearances include performances at **La Scala in Milan**, the **Ruhrtriennale, Esplanade Concert Hall in Singapore, Festspielhaus in Baden-Baden, Philharmonie im Gasteig, Philharmonies of Berlin and Cologne, Berlin Konzerthaus, Bern Theatre, Rome Opera, Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Leipzig Opera, Deutsche Oper in Berlin, Erfurt Theatre**, and –as ensemble member– at the **State Theatre in Schwerin**.

Along with all the standard trouser roles for mezzo and a large number of roles from the Wagner operas, Heller has sung Olga, Paulina, Fenena, Ulrica, Amneris, Mignon, and Dalila. She has also performed a substantial portion of the oratorio and concert literature. Heller has worked with conductors such as Jonas Alber, Alain Altinoglu, Daniel Barenboim, Michael Boder, Anthony Bramall, Johannes Debus, Asher Fisch, Daniel Huppert, Leo Hussain, Alexander Joel, Dorian Keilhack, Axel Kober, Juri Lebedev, Kent Nagano, Julien Salemkour, Peter Schneider, Alexander Soddy, Stefan Soltesz, Christian Thielemann, Sebastian Weigle, Simone Young, and Lothar Zagrosek. Stage directors include Willy Decker, Peter Dehler, Michiel Dijkema, Dieter Dorn, Bernd Eichinger, August Everding, Barbara Frey, Guy Joosten, Dieter Kaegi, Nikolaus Lehnhoff, Peter Mussbach, Georg Rootering, Dmitri Tcherniakov, Keith Warner, and Karsten Wiegand.

Among her recordings are live video productions of „Der Spieler“ (Unitel/Barenboim), „Moses und Aron“ (EuroArts/Boder), and „Elektra“ (opus arte/Thielemann). She also makes an appearance in Thielemann's DG compact disc release of „Elektra“. Together with pianist Gerold Huber and writer Dagmar Nick, Heller has recently recorded the album **„Traveling the World – Erich Kästner in songs and chansons by Edmund Nick“** for Spektral Records.