

ELIZABETH POLESE, SOPRANO



Canadian soprano Elizabeth Polese has recently been a young artist at **l'Atelier Lyrique de l'Opéra de Montréal** (2018-20), **Tanglewood Music Center**, and is currently a Resident Artist at **Detroit Opera**. She is the winner of the prestigious 2019-20 **Sullivan Foundation** Gail Robinson Award for Soprano and 2021 **Hnatyshyn Foundation** Developing Artist Award for Classical Voice. Engagements for the 2022-23 season include *Boris: Sa vie en musique* with **l'Orchestre Classique de Montréal** and Nuria in *Ainadamar* with **Opéra de Montréal**, as well as cover assignments for **Detroit Opera** as Marguerite in *Faust* and Margarita in *Ainadamar*.

During the 2021-22 season, Elizabeth toured the province of Québec with harpist Antoine Malette-Chenier with their programme *La Lettre du Jardinier*. She also joined **Tapestry Opera** as Robot [Helena] in *RUR: A Torrent of Light*, and as Papagena in Barrie Kosky's *Die Zauberflöte* with **Opéra de Montréal**. Elizabeth made her German concert debut at **Gewandhaus** during BachFest 2022 in a chamber concert including BWV 204 (*Ich bin in mir vergnügt*) and Webern's *Vier Lieder*. Finally, she made her long-awaited return to **Tanglewood Music Center**, where she sang the role of Isabel in *Lessons in Love and Violence* (American premiere, conducted by Sir George Benjamin), to great critical acclaim by the *New York Times* and *Boston Globe*. In 2020-21, she was scheduled to sing The Governess in *The Turn of the Screw* with **Opera 5**, Mozart's Mass in C with **Choral Connection St. Thomas**, and Musetta in *La Bohème* with **LAMP**, but sadly these engagements were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Fortunately, she was still able to

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perform *Messiah* with **l'Orchestre Classique de Montréal** at historical Oratoire St-Joseph, which was broadcast worldwide.

Highlights of Elizabeth's young artist residency at **l'Atelier lyrique de l'Opéra de Montréal** include Alice B. Toklas in the Canadian premiere of *Twenty-Seven*, Miss Jessel in *The Turn of the Screw* (l'Orchestre de l'Agora) Contessa di Ceprano in *Rigoletto*, and covers of Marzelline in *Fidelio* (Orchestre Métropolitain), and Agnès in *Written on Skin*. Other engagements of note include *Carmina Burana* with **Kingston Symphony Orchestra**, *Exsultate, Jubilate* with **Ottawa Symphony Orchestra**, Erste Dame in *Die Zauberflöte* with **Brott Opera**, Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro* with **Opera York**, and *Time Cycle* (Lukas Foss) and *Whitman Settings* (Oliver Knussen) with **Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra**.

In 2019, Elizabeth was the winner of the **Sullivan Foundation** Gail Robinson Award for Soprano, the **Hnatyshyn Foundation** Award for Classical Voice in 2021, and has won several competitions for her rendition of Mozart's *Exsultate, Jubilate* (University of Toronto Concerto Competition, Toronto Mozart Competition, Ottawa Symphony Orchestra Mozart-Sénécal Prize). A proponent of new music as well, Elizabeth regularly performs works by Golijov, Messiaen, Knussen, Foss, Gordon, Freedman, Cage, Crumb, Benjamin, and Stravinsky, among others.

Ms. Polese is an alumna of many esteemed training institutions internationally, including the Rebanks Family Fellowship of the **Royal Conservatory of Music, Highlands Opera Studio**, the **Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity**, the **Universität der Künste Berlin, Domaine Forget, Toronto Summer Music Festival, Brott Opera, Opera NUOVA, Centre for Opera Studies** in Italy, **Victoria Conservatory of Music**, and **Centre d'Arts Orford**. Ms. Polese holds Bachelors and Masters degrees from the **University of Toronto**, where she studied under the tutelage of celebrated Canadian soprano, Mary Morrison (OC).

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