

## Alisa Jordheim, soprano

Described as “vocally resplendent,” “powerful,” and possessing “impeccable coloratura” (San Francisco Chronicle), soprano Alisa Jordheim is praised for her compelling and vocally assured performances in opera, oratorio, musical theatre, new music, early music, and recital. Ms. Jordheim’s recent portrayal of Soeur Constance in *Dialogues des Carmélites* at the Caramoor International Music Festival was met with great acclaim: Sister Constance was “beautifully taken here by the sweet-voiced, endearing soprano Alisa Jordheim” (The New York Times) and “winningly performed by Alisa Jordheim in a soprano of surprising depth and color” (Musical America). Of her recent triumph as Gilda in *Rigoletto* with San Diego Opera, the San Diego Union-Tribune writes: "Soprano Alisa Jordheim makes an astonishing role and company debut as Gilda. Despite her petite size, she has a huge crystalline voice that she effortlessly pirouettes through perfect coloratura acrobatic and piercing high notes." Ms. Jordheim was recently named an outstanding young singer to watch in "40 under 40: A New Generation of Superb Opera Singers," an article curated by Operavor and WQXR New York Public Radio.

In the 2019-2020 season, Ms. Jordheim made her role and company debut as Clotilde in Pacini's *Maria, regina d'Inghilterra* with Odyssey Opera, debuted Hanna Glawari in *The Merry Widow* with the New Philharmonic, and sang concerts with the Bochumer Symphoniker in Germany, the Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra in Los Angeles, and the New York Opera Society. Due to COVID-19, the La Jolla Symphony had to cancel Rossini's *Stabat Mater* in which Ms. Jordheim was to be the soprano soloist, Virginia Opera had to cancel *Rigoletto* in which she was to sing Gilda, and her debut of Norina in *Don Pasquale* with Boston Midsummer Opera has been postponed to July 2021. In the 2018-2019 season, Ms. Jordheim made her role and company debut in acclaimed performances as Gilda in *Rigoletto* with San Diego Opera, and sang Ninetta in *La gazza ladra* with Teatro Nuovo, Mozart's *Exsultate, jubilate* with the Milwaukee Symphony, Mozart's *Mass in C Minor* with the Bel Canto Chorus, and various concerts with the New Philharmonic, Mainly Mozart Festival in Miami, and New York Opera Society. Other recent operatic engagements include: Cunégonde in *Candide* with Palm Beach Opera, Erster Knappe in *Parsifal* with Opéra national de Paris, Venus in *Venus & Adonis* and Belinda in *Dido & Aeneas* with Florentine Opera, The Girl/Luna in *The Rose Elf* with The Crypt Sessions/The Angel's Share in NYC, Rosina in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* with Boston Midsummer Opera, Barbarina in *Le nozze di Figaro* in a return to the Milwaukee Symphony under the baton of Edo de Waart, Serpette in *La finta giardiniera* with On Site Opera and Atlanta Opera, Yum-Yum in *The Mikado* with the New Philharmonic, Lola in the world premiere and commercial recording of *Sister Carrie* (available on the Naxos label), Constance in *Dialogues des Carmélites* at Caramoor, Satirino in *La Calisto* with Cincinnati Opera, Marzelline in *Fidelio* with Madison Opera, Nannetta in *Falstaff* with Emerald City Opera, and Micaëla in *Carmen* with the Columbus Symphony/Opera Columbus. Ms. Jordheim is the voice

of Bel in the animated short film *Over the Horizon*, written and directed by David Pierson, which is currently in post-production.

On the concert stage, Ms. Jordheim has sung Torke's *Book of Proverbs* at the Grant Park Music Festival, the title role in Gisle Kverndokk and Aksel-Otto Bull's *Letters from Ruth* with the New York Opera Society at the National Gallery of Art, Mozart's *Requiem* and Haydn's *Insanae et vanae curae* with Ensemble Pygmalion at the Chapelle Royale du Château de Versailles, further performances of Mozart's *Requiem* with Baltimore Symphony, Yum-Yum in *The Mikado* with the Northwest Indiana Symphony, "A Bernstein Banquet" with the Southwestern Suburban Symphony, Brahms's *Ein deutsches Requiem* with the Las Vegas Philharmonic and Lawrence University, Bach's *St. John Passion* with Madison Bach Musicians, Mahler's *Symphony No. 4* with the Madison Symphony Orchestra, Handel's *Messiah* with Madison Bach Musicians and the Milwaukee Symphony, Bestienne in *Bastien und Bestienne* also with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra and Greeley Philharmonic, Orff's *Carmina burana* and Mozart's *Exsultate, jubilate* with the Fox Valley Symphony, and Bach's *Cantata No. 29* with the Dayton Philharmonic.

As a former participant in San Francisco Opera's prestigious Merola Opera Program, Ms. Jordheim sang Lucia in *The Rape of Lucretia*, Barbarina in *Le nozze di Figaro*, and "Dal tuo gentil sembiante" from Mozart's *Ascanio in Alba* in the Merola Grand Finale. As a Central City Opera Apprentice Artist and Studio Artist, Ms. Jordheim sang Flora in *The Turn of the Screw*, Ellen in *Oklahoma!*, Fredrika in *A Little Night Music*, Sirena in *Rinaldo* for one of the company's family performances, and was a featured dancer in *Orpheus in the Underworld*. As a member of the Florentine Opera Studio, she sang the roles of Miss Wordsworth in *Albert Herring*, Frasquita in *Carmen*, and Barbarina in *Le nozze di Figaro*.

Ms. Jordheim is the winner of both the Rose Bampton Award and a Career Development Grant from The Sullivan Foundation, as well as the Irwin Scherzer Encouragement Award from the George London Foundation. She is the winner of the Kaleidoscope International Competition, two-time winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council District Auditions, 2nd place winner of the Classical Singer Competition, winner of the Bel Canto Regional Artists Competition, and winner of the Edith Newfield Scholarship in the Musicians Club of Women Music Scholarship Competition. She was the recipient of the Central City Opera Young Artist Award, recipient of a Central City Opera Bonfils-Stanton Foundation Artists Training Program Award, and a finalist in the Kurt Weill Foundation's Lotte Lenya International Competition.

A Fulbright Scholar and Fellow of the American Scandinavian Foundation, Ms. Jordheim studied and conducted research on singing diction in the Scandinavian languages at the

University of Oslo in 2013-2014. She frequently performs recitals of songs by Scandinavian composers, has published an article on Norwegian, Swedish, and Danish singing diction in the *NATS Journal of Singing*, and has completed English and IPA translations of numerous songs by Scandinavian composers. She is also an advocate of new music for voice, having premiered works composed for her by Lori Laitman, Douglas Pew, Joanne Metcalf, Josh Deutsch, and Rodney Rogers. Ms. Jordheim recently recorded Lori Laitman's song cycle, *Five Lovers*, on the composer's *Living in the Body* CD, which is available in hard copy and all forms of digital download and streaming on the Naxos label.

Ms. Jordheim is a native of Appleton, Wisconsin, and she completed her first two years of undergraduate study at Lawrence University where she studied with Patrice Michaels. She earned her Bachelor of Music, Master of Music, and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in Voice Performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) as a student of William McGraw, and her DMA cognate field is Scandinavian song and diction. At CCM, she performed the roles of Zerlina in *Don Giovanni*, Lucia in *The Rape of Lucretia*, Echo in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte*, Une Pâstourelle in *L'enfant et les sortilèges*, and the partial role of Mademoiselle Silberklang in *Der Schauspieldirektor*.