

# Karen Foster

## Soprano

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For her debut as Isolde in *Tristan und Isolde* in a new production with Den Norske Opera (Norwegian Opera). Of her performance, Kultur-og-underholdning declared, “She internalized the strength of Wagner’s character,” while Dagbladet wrote, “Karen Foster as Isolde is an elegant dramatic soprano,” and Aftenposten observed, “Karen Foster’s Isolde fills the palette of emotions with conviction and flexibility.”

In the 2016-17 season, Ms. Foster debuts with Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra as Isolde in *Tristan und Isolde* and Canton Symphony Orchestra as soloist in Verdi’s *Requiem*. In the 2017-18 season she returns to Bayerische Staatsoper following performances as Gerhilde in *Die Walküre* in 2015. Other engagements in the 2015-16 season included Sieglinde in *Die Walküre* with Adelphi Orchestra, and Gerhilde in a recorded performance with Hong Kong Philharmonic, which will be released by Naxos in 2017. In 2014 she was awarded Third Prize in the Lauritz Melchior International Singing Competition, and – prior to that – returned to the European continent to sing Gerhilde with Bayerische Staatsoper.

Recent highlights include a reengagement with Lyric Opera of Chicago for its production of *Lohengrin*; joining the roster of Arizona Opera for its production of *Turandot*; her appearance at the Kennedy Center through the Wagner Society of Washington D.C. to perform excerpts from Mahler’s *Symphony No. 8* and *Das klagende Lied*; and singing Wagner’s *Wesendonck Lieder* with Adelphi Chamber Orchestra.

Other highlights include the title role of *Turandot* with New Rochelle Opera; appearing as guest soloist at the German Embassy in the Immolation Scene from *Götterdämmerung*, presented by the Wagner Society of Washington D.C.; Helmwig in *Die Walküre* with Düsseldorf’s Deutsche Oper am Rhein; Leonora in *Il trovatore* with Westfield Symphony Orchestra; a reengagement with Lyric Opera of Chicago for its production of Strauss’ *Die Frau ohne Schatten*; and Verdi’s *Requiem* with the New York Choral Society.

Ms. Foster joined the Lyric Opera of Chicago and Seattle Opera in their Ring cycle as the cover for Helmwig, Gerhilde and Ortlinde in *Die Walküre*. For her apprenticeship with the Santa Fe Opera, she performed segments from Verdi’s *Macbeth*. Ms. Foster’s repertoire also includes Giorgetta in *Il tabarro*, Ariadne in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, and Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*. Ms. Foster also performed Wellgunde in *Das Rheingold* and Helmwig with Wagner Theater at Mannes. She recorded the role of Schlepptägerin in *Elektra* under the baton of Semyon Bychkov.

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