



ELISA SUNSHINE

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SOPRANO

Celebrated for her “blend of vocal sparkle and theatrical charisma” (San Francisco Chronicle), California native Elisa Sunshine is a newly minted graduate of San Francisco Opera’s Adler Fellowship with a commitment to mining for humanity in her characters. She joins The Santa Fe Opera as an Apprentice Artist in 2024, making her company debut as Annina in *La Traviata* and covering Sheila in the world premiere of Gregory Spears and Tracy K. Smith's *The Righteous*. Recently, she covered the title character in Laurent Pelly's production of Donizetti's *La fille du régiment* with Lyric Opera of Chicago and represented the United States as a participant in the 2023 Queen Sonja Singing Competition in Norway. She returned to San Francisco Opera during the centennial season celebration as part of Richard Strauss's masterpiece *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, conducted by Sir Donald Runnicles.

Additional San Francisco Opera highlights include Annina in *La Traviata* and the Shepherd boy in *Tosca*; covering Constance in *Dialogues des Carmélites*, Despina in *Così fan tutte*, Zerlina in *Don Giovanni*, and Amor in Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice*; and preparing assignments lost to the pandemic, including covering the title role in Handel's *Partenope*, Gilda in *Rigoletto*, and Musetta in *La bohème*. Her time in the Bay Area began with the Merola Opera Program, where she created the role of Selena in the world premiere of Jake Heggie and Gene Scheer's *If I Were You*, where her "steady, vibrant soprano made the most of her every moment. Ms. Sunshine also mined every bit of drama out of Selena's revelatory final encounter with Diana" (Opera Today).

In concert, Ms. Sunshine recently made her debut with the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra performing as the soprano soloist in Handel's *Messiah* led by Music Director Richard Egarr. She also performed Second Fairy in Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in her debut with the San Francisco Symphony, under the baton of Esa-Pekka Salonen.