

Elizabeth Roberts - Biography

Elizabeth made her debut at London's Royal Festival Hall and on BBC Radio 3 with the [BBC Symphony Orchestra](#) in the London premiere of Birtwistle's [The Second Mrs Kong](#) (Terror and First Woman), conducted by Martyn Brabbins and directed by Kenneth Richardson.

Elizabeth also appears on two recordings with the BBC Symphony Orchestra: Chausson's opera [Le roi Arthus](#) under Leon Botstein; and Josef Marx's *Herbstchor an Pan* under Jirí Belohlávek.

She was honoured to be chosen as soprano soloist at the entry of the Olympic Flame and the lighting of the cauldron, performing with Dame Evelyn Glennie, in the Opening Ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Elizabeth's oratorio repertoire spans from Mozart's great choral works to Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* via Verdi's *Requiem* and Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*. Working with conductors such as Paul McCreesh, Jonathan Willcocks and Adrian Partington, she has performed in many of the great venues and festivals throughout the UK, including St John's Smith Square, Christ Church Spitalfields (Mozart K528 *Bella mia fiamma* and Beethoven *Symphony No. 9*), Durham Cathedral (Beethoven *Missa Solemnis*), Truro Cathedral (Haydn *Stabat Mater*), Dorchester Abbey (Beethoven *Missa Solemnis*) and Tewkesbury Abbey (Orff *Carmina Burana*). Outside the UK, concert performances have taken her to Darmstadt for Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony* with the [Konzertchor Darmstadt](#) and [Philharmonie Südwestfalen](#) under Wolfgang Seeliger; to All Saints English Church in Rome for Bach's *Johannes Passion*, Mozart's *Coronation Mass* and Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*; and to Spoleto (Vaughan Williams with the Berkshire (USA) Choral Festival). In 2012 she performed Orff's *Carmina Burana* in Beijing with the [Peking Sinfonietta](#) under Nicholas Smith OBE.

Elizabeth is also an accomplished recitalist. In November 2012 she premiered Keith Burstein's cycle *Songs of Love & Solitude* with Julian Gallant at Pushkin House, London. In December 2012 she gave a recital of songs by Strauss, Debussy and Weill with Kelvin Lim in the Crush Room of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

She made her Italian stage debut as Lauretta (*Gianni Schicchi*) under Nicoletta Conti at the Teatro di Monteleone di Spoleto and touring Umbria. In 2012 she debuted in Spain as Salome in Massenet's *Hérodiade* in Valladolid under Francisco Lara. Other operatic roles include: Cio-Cio San (*Madama Butterfly*) for Opera South East and for Regents Opera; Tosca (*Tosca*) for New London Opera Players; Mimì (*La bohème*) for [Headfirst Productions](#) and for Opus One Opera; Countess of Dunmow (*A Dinner Engagement*) for [Minotaur Music Theatre](#); Contessa (*Le nozze di Figaro*), Fiordiligi (*Così fan tutte*), Musetta (*La bohème*), The Plaintiff (*Trial by Jury*) and Mabel (*Pirates of Penzance*) for [Hand Made Opera](#); Adina (*L'Elisir d'amore*); Susanna (*Le nozze di Figaro*); Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*), conducted by [Alistair Dawes](#); Queen of the Gypsies (*The Bohemian Girl*); and Clorinda (*La Cenerentola*).

Elizabeth studied music at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, winning the David Barlow Memorial Award, before going on to English National Opera's young artist course 'The Knack' with Rufus Norris, Leah Hausman and Mary King. She has worked privately and in masterclasses with Philip Langridge, Lillian Watson, Yvonne Howard, Mary Plazas, Donald Maxwell, and with [Nicoletta Conti](#) in Bologna. In 2010 she was one of seven singers selected for a week of intensive study of song repertoire with Malcolm Martineau at [Creat](#). She now studies with [Janis Kelly](#).