

NICOLE CHEVALIER

dramatic coloratura soprano

American born soprano Nicole Chevalier made her international breakthrough at the Salzburg Festival in the summer of 2019 as Elettra in Mozart's Idomeneo with Teodor Currentzis and Peter Sellars. Since she sang the title role of La Traviata at Musikfest Bremen; Olympia, Antonia, Giulietta and Stella (Les Contes d'Hoffmann) at La Monnaie Brussels, Vitellia (La clemenza di Tito) as well as the title roles in Beethoven's Leonore (Fidelio 1806) and Thaïs at Theater an der Wien, a concert version of Leonore with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and a Corona proof production of Schönberg's Pierrot Lunaire with Kent Nagano at Hamburgische Staatsoper (incl. a recording for the Biennale 2020). Upcoming plans feature her debut at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as Vitellia (La clemenza di Tito) and Donna Elvira (Don Giovanni), followed in the 2021-22 season by her Paris Opera debut as Iphigénie en Tauride in the Warlikowski production, role debut of Elisabeth in Don Carlo with Vincent Huguet, her de facto one-woman-show of La Traviata both in Basel, debut at Festspielhaus Baden-Baden with Thomas Hengelbrock as Elettra in Idomeneo and debut at the Festival d'Aix 2023 edition with Tcherniakov as Despina in a new production of Così fan tutte.

During her five years as a permanent ensemble member at the Komische Oper Berlin she worked extensively with Barrie Kosky with whom she created the 4-Female Leads in Les Contes d'Hoffmann, the title role in Handel's Semele, the title role of Die Schöne Helena, Bernstein's Cunegonde (Candide). Other highlights include Donna Elvira (Don Giovanni), Fiordiligi (Così fan tutte), Tytania (A Midsummer Night's Dream), Rosalinde (Die Fledermaus) and most notably the title role in Aribert Reimann's Medea directed by Benedict Andrews.

The dramatic coloratura soprano's repertoire is vast, extending from baroque to contemporary works by such composers as Aribert Reimann, Kaija Saariaho and Dmitri Kourliandski with a particular focus however, on the great soprano roles of Mozart, Donizetti and Verdi. Early highlights of her career include: Verdi's Violetta (La Traviata) directed by Benedikt von Peter at the Hanover State Opera as well as Ruth Berghaus's production at the Stuttgart State Opera, Donizetti's Lucia at the Hamburg and Hanover State Operas, Mozart's Konstanze at the Vienna Volksoper and Calixto Bieito's production at the Komische Oper, as well as Eudoxie in Konwitschny's production of La Juive at Opera Flanders Antwerp/Gent.

For her performances as the 4-Female Leads in Les Contes d'Hoffmann at the Komische Oper Berlin Nicole Chevalier received the German Theatre Prize "Der Faust" in 2016. In 2017 she was nominated by leading musical critics of Opernwelt as "Singer of the Year" for her portrayal of Aribert Reimann's Medea (Opernwelt's Annual Yearbook 2017). In 2020 she was nominated again as "Singer of the Year" for her interpretations of Elettra in Salzburg, Leonore and Vitellia in Vienna. In both Opernwelt Annual Yearbooks she was additionally highlighted as "Important Singer of the season".