

mezzo-soprano

# LISA VAN DER PLOEG

415-484-2280 | lisasingforme@gmail.com

Lisa van der Ploeg's rich, lustrous sound and electrifying stage presence have captivated audiences, displaying a remarkable variety in over 45 roles such as Santuzza in *Cavalleria Rusticana*, Azucena in *Il Trovatore*, Mother in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, Amneris in *Aida*, and the Witch and Mother in *Hansel and Gretel*.

Recently, Lisa performed the Western premiere of Chinese composer Tony Fok's *Ask the Earth and the Sky*, an oratorio work about the Sent-down Youth Movement of China. Earlier this year, she was featured as the soloist for Mahler's *Symphony No. 2* with the Tulsa Symphony under the baton of Benjamin Zander, Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with the Golden Gate Symphony, and solo performances with Chora Nova and the San Francisco Bach Choir. Highlights of recent seasons include performances of Handel's *Messiah* with the Stockton Chorale and the Auburn Symphony, the Verdi *Requiem* with the Junge Kammerphilharmonie Freiburg and the Berkeley Community Chorus and Orchestra, and the world premiere of *Voyage of Mary Magdalene*, a chamber opera by composer Nancy Bachmann.

Lisa's operatic repertoire spans the repertoire, from Handel to Verdi. Hers is a large, dramatic voice capable of great nuance and heartfelt communication, as well as impeccable comedic timing. In addition to those listed above, some of her favorite roles performed include Dido in *Dido and Aeneas*, Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly*, Mother Abbess in *The Sound of Music*, Katisha in *The Mikado* and the title roles in *Giulio Cesare* and *Orlando*. Her extensive concert repertoire is equally diverse, additional highlights of which include the Bach *B-minor Mass*, the Mozart and Duruflé *Requiem*, *Symphony No. 9* by Beethoven, and Dvorak's *Stabat Mater*. Of her performance of Mahler's *3rd Symphony*, the *Herald Times* called Lisa's a "voice of substance...[she] appeared not only in full vocal control, but immersed." A favorite of the West and Midwest regions, Lisa has performed with Utah Festival Opera, Tulsa Symphony, Dayton Philharmonic, Indianapolis Symphony, Stockton Symphony, San Francisco Opera Center, and Intermountain Opera among many others, working with conductors including Raymond Leppard, Daniel Hege, and Neal Gittleman, who described the Mahler *Rückert Lieder* as "tailor made for the richness of Lisa van der Ploeg's voice and the intelligence of her singing."

Born in San Jose, Lisa grew up in Denmark before returning to the U.S. to pursue her studies in classical voice. Her first professional appearances included performances with Maestro Raymond Leppard and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra in the *Barber of Seville* and the *Three Cornered Hat* and she made her West Coast debut with the San Francisco Opera Center/Merola Program in the title role of *Carmen*, which she toured nationally with the Western Opera Theater. She currently resides in the San Francisco Bay Area.