



ROYAL
OPERA

14 OCTOBER 2013

CASTING ANNOUNCEMENT

DIALOGUES DES CARMÉLITES

29 May at 7.30 pm, 2, 4, 9, 11 June at 7.30 pm 7 June at 7pm.

Having been contracted for the role of Blanche in *Dialogues des Carmélites* some time ago, Magdalena Kožená finds it no longer fits with her current vocal development. With great regret, therefore, she has decided she must withdraw from the forthcoming production and remove the role from her repertory. The role of Blanche will now be sung by British soprano **Sally Matthews**.

Sally has recently sung the role of Blanche for Bavarian State Opera in Munich and also sang Blanche in Vienna in 2008. A former member of The Royal Opera's Young Artists Programme, Sally made her debut with The Royal Opera in 2001 as Nannetta (*Falstaff*). Since leaving the Programme she has returned to sing Fiordiligi (*Così fan tutte*), Calisto (*La Calisto*) and Anne Trulove (*The Rake's Progress*) for the Company. Her other recent appearances include Countess Almaviva (*Le nozze di Figaro*) for Glyndebourne Festival and Sophie (*Der Rosenkavalier*) for Netherlands Opera.

LE NOZZE DI FIGARO

2, 5, 7, 15, May at 7pm: 10 May at 12 noon

As British soprano **Sally Matthews** will now be singing the role of Blanche in *Dialogues des Carmélites* Welsh soprano **Rebecca Evans** will sing the role of Countess Almaviva in *Le nozze di Figaro*.

Rebecca returns to The Royal Opera to sing the role of Countess Almaviva for the first time with the Company. She made her Royal Opera debut in 1997 and also sang Susanna
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(*Le nozze di Figaro*) with the Company in 1998. Since then, she has sung many roles for The Royal Opera including Johanna (*Sweeney Todd*), Pamina (*Die Zauberflöte*), Mimì (*La bohème*) and Nella (*Gianni Schicchi*). She has previously sung Countess Almaviva with Welsh National Opera. Rebecca has sung extensively in Europe, and in America where her roles have included Susanna (*Le nozze di Figaro*) and Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*) for the Metropolitan Opera, New York, and Adina (*L'elisir d'amore*) for San Francisco Opera

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