

Mezzo-soprano **Hannah Shea** is thrilled to be joining the Cafritz Young Artists of the **Washington National Opera** at the Kennedy Center for their 2021-2022 season. She will make her house debut as Mercédès in Bizet's *Carmen* and will also appear with the **National Symphony Orchestra** as the alto soloist in Mozart's *Requiem* in December 2021.

Hannah was recently a finalist in **Houston Grand Opera's** (HGO) 2021 Eleanor McCollum Competition, **Pittsburgh Festival Opera's** 2020 Mildred Miller International Voice Competition, and the 2020 Houston Saengerbund Awards. Additionally, she performed in HGO's virtual outreach production of *Katie: The Strongest of the Strong* by Faye Chiao in the fall of 2020.

During her studies at Rice University's **Shepherd School of Music**, Hannah sang the roles of La tasse chinoise in Ravel's *L'enfant et les sortilèges* and Nelda in Kamala Sankaram's *Taking Up Serpents*. She also appeared as the title role in scenes from Bizet's *Carmen* and Federico Moreno Torroba's *Luisa Fernanda*.

A lover of new music, Hannah premiered *Songs of Strength*, a song cycle dedicated to her previous voice teacher, Metropolitan Opera mezzo Mildred Miller. In 2019 the work was commissioned, premiered, and recorded by her alma mater **Carnegie Mellon University** (CMU), composed by Marilyn Taft Thomas, and featured the poetry of Maya Angelou.

No stranger to the concert stage, Hannah has performed as the alto soloist in Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevsky* (CMU), Handel's *Messiah* (**Bach Choir of Pittsburgh**), and as a Street Singer in Bernstein's *Mass* (**Brevard Music Center**). Other previous operatic roles include the Third Lady in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, Fidalma in Cimarosa's *Il matrimonio segreto*, and Prince Orlofsky in J. Strauss' *Die Fledermaus*, all performed with the CMU School of Music. She has also covered the roles of the Old Lady in Bernstein's *Candide* (Brevard Music Center), and the title role in Handel's *Xerxes* (Pittsburgh Festival Opera).

Hannah is a proud student of Dr. Robin Rice. She holds her master's degree from Rice University and her bachelor's degree from Carnegie Mellon University.