



### **Emma Curtis, contralto**

Emma Curtis studied at the Guildhall School of Music and at the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California where she worked with Marilyn Horne. She was a full-time member of the Solo Ensemble at the Staatstheater Stuttgart from 2003 to 2006.

She debuted at the Staatstheater Stuttgart as Nutrice (*L'incoronazione di Poppea*) and then in 2001/02 sang Ericlea (*Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria*). In 2003/04 she sang Pastore II in Monteverdi's *Orfeo* with Jean-Claude Malgoire, Eine Kranke and 4. nackte Jungfrau in Schönberg's *Moses und Aron* conducted by Lothar Zagrosek, and Poklížecka in Janáček's *The Makropolous Case*, conducted by Sylvain Cambreling.

Emma created the role of Galatée in the world premiere of *Pastorale* by Gérard Pesson for Staatstheater Stuttgart conducted by Kwamé Ryan, and the leading role of L'Ainée in the world premiere of Jacques Lenot's *J'étais dans ma maison et j'attendais que la pluie vienne* at Opera de Genève, conducted by Daniel Kawka.

As a Baroque specialist Emma has performed the title role in Cavalli's *Giasone* for Aspen Music Festival conducted by Harry Bicket, Irene in Handel's *Atalanta* at the International Handel-Festival, Göttingen, conducted by Nicholas McGegan, Eduige (Handel's *Rodelinda*) for Portland Opera, USA, conducted by George Manahan, Bertarido (Handel's *Rodelinda*) in Santa Barbara, Cleofe in Handel's *La Resurrezione* at the Lufthansa Baroque Festival in London, with Trevor Pinnock and The English Concert, *Les Leçons de Ténèbres* by Marc Antoine Charpentier, plus the world premiere of *Les Leçons de Ténèbres* by Philippe Fénelon, with La Grand Ecurie et la Chambre du Roy and *Au temps de Port Royal* with Les Arts Florissants and William Christie

Other operatic appearances include Geneviève (*Pelléas et Mélisande*), La principessa (*Suor Angelica*), Third Lady (*Die Zauberflöte*) and Modestina (*Il viaggio a Reims*) in Santa Barbara, Quickly (*Falstaff*) for Festival Opus a Gattières, and Mother Goose (*The Rake's Progress*) and Maddelena (*Rigoletto*). Emma's concert appearances include Sibelius's *Jokamies* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by Thomas Adès and Janáček's *Diary of One who Disappeared* at the Aldeburgh Festival, and Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music* with Leonard Slatkin and the BBC Symphony Orchestra at the First Night of the BBC Proms 2001.

Emma founded The Frolick with Andrew Maginley in 2005 in Germany. The group's base moved to the UK in 2007. Their first recording, *Calliope - volume the first*, was awarded Best Classical Vocal Album of 2006 by AllMusic.