

Helena Rasker

Dutch contralto Helena Rasker's career encompasses the operatic stage, the concert platform and the recital hall across a vast and expanding repertoire, from Bach to music being composed as you read this. She has enjoyed working with many notable conductors including: Sir Antonio Pappano; Sir George Benjamin; Marc Minkowski; Reinbert de Leeuw; Jaap van Zweden; Laurence Cummings; Marc Albrecht and Yannick Nézet-Seguin.

Helena has shown a profound commitment to the music of our time and has given the World Premiere performances of many new creations. She has performed the works of, and collaborated with, composers including Sir George Benjamin; Stefan Wirth; Georg Freidrich Haas; Rob Zuidam; John Adams; Peter-Jan Wagemen; Michel van der Aa; Jan van Vlijmen and Pascal Dusapin.

Recent highlights include George Benjamin's *Into the Little Hill* with Ensemble Modern, the Münchener Kammerorchester and with Ensemble Intercontemporain in Paris, her debut in the role of the Old Countess in *Pique Dame* at the Aalto Theater in Essen, *Dritte Dame* in *Die Zauberflöte* at the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence 2018 with Raphaël Pichon conducting, the role of Ramise in Händel's *Arminio* under the baton of Laurence Cummings at the Internationale Händel-Festspiele Göttingen 2018, Bach's *Mattheaus Passion* and Mahler's *Symphony Nr. 8* with the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of Marc Albrecht, Schumann's *Szenen aus Goethes Faust* with The Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra and conductor Markus Stenz, *Leocasta* in Händel's *Giustino* with with Lautten Compagny at the Händel-festspiele Halle and Bach's *Weihnachts Oratorium* and *Mattheaus Passion* with conductor Marc Minkowksi and Les Musiciens du Louvre.

Helena Rasker trained at the Royal Conservatory of The Hague and the Tanglewood Music Center. She continues to study privately with Margreet Honig.