



STRATAGEM
ARTISTS

ARTIST DRIVEN COLLABORATION

Reilly Nelson Mezzo-Soprano

Canadian mezzo-soprano Reilly Nelson brings her “distinctly warm and burnished” sound to stages of all sizes in North America and Europe. In 2020-2021, Ms. Nelson sang Mezzo 2 in the Glimmerglass Festival workshop of *The Knock* and was slated to sing Caterina in Mascagni’s *L’amico Fritz* at the Tiroler Festspiele Erl (COVID19 - rescheduled to 2022), and Mercédès in Cincinnati Opera’s production of *Carmen* (COVID19). That summer, Ms. Nelson was also set to join the Glimmerglass Festival to sing Second Lady / Second Spirit in *The Magic Flute*, and to cover the title role in *Songbird*, a new English adaptation of *La Perichole* while singing Mastrilla (COVID19). Later in 2021, she joined Barbara Hannigan’s Equilibrium Young Artists Programme at the Lunenberg Academy of Music Performance, made her Rochester Philharmonic debut as Hansel in *Hansel and Gretel* and returned to the Lunenberg Academy of Music Performance for a concert of Ana Sokolovic works. In 2022, she will make her debut with The Phoenix Symphony as the alto soloist in Beethoven’s 9th *Symphony* and join the Glimmerglass Festival as a guest artist, singing Gianna in the world premiere of *Tenor Overboard* and singing Ursula and the Trio of Herwegen while covering Elsa Schraeder in *The Sound of Music*.

During the summer of 2020, Ms. Nelson was a Young Artist with Glimmerglass Opera, a virtual iteration of the distinguished program that featured working sessions with Isabel Leonard, Francesca Zambello, Eric Owens, and Renée Fleming.

In her 2019/20 season, Ms. Nelson sang Suzuki in Soo Opera Theater’s production of *Madama Butterfly*, Stephano in Cincinnati Opera’s *Roméo et Juliette*, and gave a workshop performance of William Menefield and Sheila Williams’ new opera, *Fierce*, with Cincinnati Opera’s Opera Fusion New Works.

Additional recent highlights include the Mother in *Amahl and the Night Visitors* and Leah in *Enemies, A Love Story*, both with Kentucky Opera, and *Trouble in Tahiti* with Lexington Philharmonic. Her continued relationship with Cincinnati Opera mirrors Ms. Reilly’s consistent balance of traditional and new operatic repertoire, including Flora in *La traviata*, Lupe Marin in *Frida*, a workshop performance of Ricky Ian Gordon’s *Intimate Apparel*, and the U.S. premiere of Julien Bilodeau’s *Another Brick in the Wall: The Opera*.

In addition to her theatrical work, Ms. Nelson is a seasoned concert artist. Recent credits include Mozart’s *Requiem* with the Reno Philharmonic, a staged performance of Argento’s *From the Diary of Virginia Woolf* with Cincinnati Chamber Opera and Cincinnati Song Initiative. With Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, Ms. Nelson has performed Bach’s *St. Matthew Passion* and *B minor Mass*, Mahler’s *Rückert-Lieder*, and cabaret songs of William Bolcom and Kurt Weill.

Ms. Nelson took second prize in the Kurt Weill Foundation’s prestigious Lotte Lenya Competition in 2018, after winning the Carolyn Weber Award in the same competition in 2016. She was the winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in the Middle/East Tennessee District.

Ms. Nelson has completed Young Artist programs with Cincinnati Opera and Kentucky Opera. She has studied at Eastman School of Music, Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, and Tanglewood.

Reilly Nelson, Mezzo-Soprano



STRATAGEM
ARTISTS

ARTIST DRIVEN COLLABORATION

Opera/Musical

Gianna*	<i>Tenor Overboard</i> (world premiere)	The Glimmerglass Festival	2022
Elsa Schraeder*	<i>The Sound of Music</i>	The Glimmerglass Festival	2022
Ursula / Trio of Herwegen*	<i>The Sound of Music</i>	The Glimmerglass Festival	2022
Caterina	<i>L'amico Fritz</i>	Tiroler Festspiele Erl	2022
Hansel	<i>Hansel and Gretel</i>	Rochester Philharmonic	2021
Second Lady/Second Spirit (COVID19)	<i>The Magic Flute</i>	The Glimmerglass Festival	2021
La Perichole+/Mastrilla (COVID19)	<i>Songbird (La Perichole)</i>	The Glimmerglass Festival	2021
Mercédès (COVID19)	<i>Carmen</i>	Cincinnati Opera	2021
Mezzo 2	<i>The Knock</i> (workshop)	The Glimmerglass Festival	2020
Zerlina (COVID19)	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	The Glimmerglass Festival	2020
Rinaldo+ (COVID19)	<i>Rinaldo</i>	The Glimmerglass Festival	2020
Vesta	<i>Fierce</i> (workshop)	Cincinnati Opera	2019
Suzuki	<i>Madama Butterfly</i>	Soo Opera Theatre	2019
Stephano	<i>Roméo et Juliette</i>	Cincinnati Opera	2019
Mother	<i>Amahl and the Night Visitors</i>	Kentucky Maine	2018
Trio	<i>Trouble in Tahiti</i>	Lexington Philharmonic	2018
Leah	<i>Enemies, A Love Story</i>	Kentucky Opera	2018
Tamara+	<i>Enemies, A Love Story</i>	Kentucky Opera	2018
Vera Lynn	<i>Another Brick in the Wall</i>	Cincinnati Opera	2018
Flora Bervoix	<i>La traviata</i>	Cincinnati Opera	2018
Lupe Marin	<i>Frida</i>	Cincinnati Opera	2017
Mrs. Van Buren	<i>Intimate Apparel</i> (workshop)	Cincinnati Opera	2016
Owl	<i>The Cunning Little Vixen</i>	University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music	2016
Hansel	<i>Hansel and Gretel</i>	University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music	2014
Mary	<i>Morning Star</i> (workshop)	Cincinnati Opera	2012

Oratorio/Concert

Alto Soloist*	<i>9th Symphony</i> (Beethoven)	The Phoenix Symphony	2022
Soloist	<i>Love Song / Tanzer Lieder</i> (Sokolovic)	Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance	2021
Soloist	<i>Mozart's Requiem</i>	Reno Philharmonic	2019
Virginia Woolf	<i>From the Diary of Virginia Woolf</i>	Cincinnati Chamber Opera & Cincinnati Song Initiative	2018
Soloist	<i>West Side Story Suite</i>	Cincinnati Pops	2018
Soloist	<i>St. Matthew Passion</i>	University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music	2017
Soloist	<i>Green Eggs and Ham</i>	Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra	2017
Soloist	<i>Bolcom Cabaret</i>	University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music	2014/15
Soloist	<i>Berio Circles</i>	Percussive Arts Society International Convention	2014
Soloist	<i>Rückert-Lieder</i> (Mahler)	University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music	2014
Soloist	<i>B minor Mass</i> (Bach)	University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music	2013
Soloist	<i>Folk Songs</i> (Bernard Rands) WP	Tanglewood	2013
Soloist	<i>Les nuits d'été</i>	Tanglewood	2013
Soloist	<i>O Ewigkeit, du Donnerwort</i> BWV 20	Tanglewood	2012

Competitions/Awards

Winner, Second Prize	Lotte Lenya Competition	2018
Winner, Middle/East Tennessee District	Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions	2017
Recipient, Carolyn Weber Award	Lotte Lenya Competition	2016

Training

Artist, Summer Intensive Workshop	Equilibrium Young Artists (Barbara Hannigan)	2020,21
Young Artist	The Glimmerglass Festival	2020,21
Studio Artist	Kentucky Opera	2019
Young Artist	Cincinnati Opera	2018
Vocal Fellow	Tanglewood	2014

Education

Doctor of Musical Arts	CCM	2018
Master of Music	CCM	2013
Bachelor of Music	Eastman School of Music	2011

* Upcoming Performance + Cover Role

Reilly Nelson, Mezzo-Soprano



Roméo et Juliette, Cincinnati Opera

“Also making an impression was mezzo-soprano Reilly Nelson as Romeo’s page, Stephano, in the charming song, ‘Que fais-tu, blanche tourterelle’.”

Janelle Gelfand, *Cincinnati Business Courier* 06/28/19

Roméo et Juliette, Cincinnati Opera

“And in another one of the opera’s few lighter moments, Reilly Nelson shone in the solo spotlight as Romeo’s page, Stephano.”
James Harvey, *Jay Harvey Upstage* 06/28/19

Another Brick in the Wall: The Opera, Cincinnati Opera

“Reilly Nelson as Vera Lynn, singing ‘We’ll Meet Again’ in a wartime USO club, one of the opera’s few unabashedly heartwarming scenes.”

David Lyman, *Cincinnati Enquirer* 07/21/18

Another Brick in the Wall: The Opera, Cincinnati Opera

“Cincinnati Opera Young Artists Reilly Nelson and James Eder as Vera Lynn and The Judge, respectively, and Michael Young as The Prosecutor – each and every one were flawless.”

Raphael de Acha, *Raphael’s Music Notes* 01/08/18

Closer to my own life (Harbison), Tanglewood Music Center

“The vocal line, ably sung by Nelson, unfolds more like recitatives than arias. Nelson brought great support, tone and enunciation to this part. Her command of the music is impressive, as she handily dispatched leaps and jumps in the voice part. Kirov and the TMC Orchestra collaborated with Nelson to offer a solid reading of this work.”

Cashman Kerr Prince, *Boston Music Intelligencer* 07/11/13