

**ULRIKA TENSTAM**  
**MEZZO SOPRANO**

**BIOGRAPHY LONG VERSION**

Ulrika Tenstam is an artist with a wide range both vocally and scenically. Since her sensational debut as Clytemnestra in *Iphigénie en Aulide* of Gluck at Drottningholms Slottsteater and the big breakthrough as Delilah by Saint-Saëns, she has been praised for her powerful role interpretations.

This season Ulrika will be participating in a production of a newly written Swedish opera *Under en kvinnas hjärta* at Piteå Church Opera in Sweden, singing the role Anna. Composer Sven-David Sandström, stage director Mira Bartov.

Recent engagements include Ulrika in *Ballo di Maschera* at Folkoperan in Stockholm and Berta in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* at GöteborgsOperan, *The Grand Mother* and *The Lappish Woman* in NorrlandsOperan's production of *The Snow Queen*, a family opera based on Andersen's popular fairytale, *La Cieta* in *La Gioconda* by Ponchielli and *Lucia* in *Cavalleria Rusticana* in a semi staged version with the Norrköping Symphony orchestra.

Ulrika Tenstam was highly praised for her interpretation as Grafín Geschwitz in *Lulu* during the Festival Amazonas de Ópera de Manaus in 2012. During season of 2011/12 she sang Herodias in Gothenburg Opera's production of Richard Strauss' opera *Salome*. The season before, Ulrika appeared as Baba in *The Rake's Progress* at the same stage.

At the end of the 2009/10 season Ulrika was in Lillehammer, Oslo in Norway and performed the role of Mamsell Ulrica Arfvidsson in *Maskeradbalen*. Ulrika met with great success in 2009 as Minister of Culture of the first performance of Österling opera *Näsflöjten* at the Vadstena Academy, and with an extensive concert tour with Barbara Hendricks and the Drottningholm Baroque Ensemble. In 2010 she sang *Frau von Luber* in Weill's *Silver Lake* at Folkoperan.

Her colourful voice ranges from darkest black to a glittering height. This in combination with her dramatic acting and her sensitivity makes her a very interesting singer. The readers of *Dagens Nyheter* voted her to the Kasper award in 1991 for her performance as *Dalilah*.

Her career covers the whole mezzo repertoire ranging from Mozart, Rossini and Offenbach (Ramiro in *La Fina*, Marcellina in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Rosina in *Il barbiere di Sevilla*, Melibea in *Il viaggio a Reims*, Helene in *La belle Helene* and Nicklausse in *Les contes d'Hoffmann*) to Bizet, Richard Strauss, Verdi and Wagner (Carmen in *Carmen*, Die Amme in *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, Ulrica in *Un ballo in maschera* and Magdalen in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*). It is her dramatic roles that have given her the highest acclaim.

Ms Tenstam has appeared with renowned conductors as Arnold Östman, Siegfried Köhler, Franz Welzer Möst, Neeme Järvi, Sixten Ehrling and Antonio Papanov.

She is often engaged to do concert solos like; Beethoven's 9th Symphony, Verdi's Requiem, all of Bach's Oratorium and Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* and his 8th Symphony.

Ulrika Tenstam's versatility has even landed her theatrical acting parts as well as roles in experimental productions like Berndt Egerbladh's *Mitt hjärta brister* at Folkoperan in Stockholm. With the Hong Kong Dance Company she did a choreographed alto part of Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* which included both dancing and singing. Her part as Carmen at Göteborgsoperan was also fully choreographed. In one of her latest performances at Folkoperan, *Zarah* (about Zarah Leander's time in Germany), she gained praise by the critics for her vocal performance as well as for her speaking part.

Ulrika's flexible voice has been a great advantage to her when it comes to modern atonal music, where vocal technique, control and strength are essential; in *Macbeth* by J Sandström, *Zarah* by A Nilsson and Alban Berg's *Lulu*.

Ulrika's fondness of chamber music has made her perform in a number of concerts in the lieder tradition, as well as other chamber music like Respighi's *Il Tramonto*.

She has performed abroad with Melibea in Rossini's *Il viaggio a Reims* at the Prague opera house, in Brussels she did Magdalen in Wagner's *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, she was alto soloist in Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* in Hong Kong as well as in Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* in Montpellier together with Barbra Hendricks and the Drottningholm Baroque ensemble.

The role of Julie in *Showboat* (fall 2008) marked her debut in the field of musicales.

**ULRIKA TENSTAM  
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**BIOGRAPHY SHORT VERSION**

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