

SHORT BIOGRAPHIES 2019-2020

Alabama-born soprano **Susanna Phillips**, recipient of The Metropolitan Opera's 2010 Beverly Sills Artist Award, continues to establish herself as one of today's most sought-after singing actors and recitalists. In the 2019-20 season, Ms. Phillips will return to the Metropolitan Opera for a twelfth consecutive season to sing Countess Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro* and make her role debut in the title role of *Kát'a Kabanová*. She will reprise her acclaimed rendition of Musetta in *La bohème* with the company. Additionally, she will return to Opera Theatre of St. Louis to make her role debut in the title role of *Floyd's Susannah*. In concert, Ms. Phillips will sing the finale of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the San Francisco Symphony at its opening night gala concert, led by conductor Michael Tilson Thomas. Additionally, she will perform the Messiah with the Philadelphia Orchestra, and make her debut with the Houston Symphony in Adams' *El Niño* under the baton of David Robertson. Highly in demand by the world's most prestigious orchestras, Phillips has appeared with the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic under Alan Gilbert, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, San Francisco Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Oratorio Society of New York, Santa Fe Symphony, Santa Barbara Symphony, St. Louis Symphony, Orchestra of St. Luke's, and Santa Fe Concert Association. Born in Birmingham, Alabama and raised in Huntsville, over 400 people traveled from her hometown to New York City in December 2008 for Phillips' Metropolitan Opera debut in *La Bohème*. She continues to be overwhelmed by the support she receives and returns frequently to her native state for recitals and orchestral appearances.

Violist **Paul Neubauer's** exceptional musicality and effortless playing led the New York Times to call him "a master musician." He recently made his Chicago Symphony subscription debut with conductor Riccardo Muti and his Mariinsky Orchestra debut with conductor Valery Gergiev. He also gave the US premiere of the newly discovered *Impromptu for viola and piano* by Shostakovich with pianist Wu Han. In addition, his recording of the Aaron Kernis *Viola Concerto* with the Royal Northern Sinfonia was released on Signum Records and his recording of the complete viola and piano music by Ernest Bloch with pianist Margo Garrett was released on Delos. Appointed principal violist of the New York Philharmonic at age 21, he has appeared as soloist with over 100 orchestras including the New York, Los Angeles, and Helsinki philharmonics; National, St. Louis, Detroit, Dallas, San Francisco, and Bournemouth symphonies; and Santa Cecilia, English Chamber, and Beethovenhalle orchestras. He has premiered viola concertos by Bartók (revised version of the *Viola Concerto*), Friedman, Glière, Jacob, Kernis, Lazarof, Müller-Siemens, Ott, Penderecki, Picker, Suter, and Tower and has been featured on CBS's *Sunday Morning*, *A Prairie Home Companion*, and in *Strad*, *Strings*, and *People* magazines. A two-time Grammy nominee, he has recorded on numerous labels including Decca, Deutsche Grammophon, RCA Red Seal, and Sony Classical and is a member of SPA, a trio with soprano Susanna Phillips and pianist Anne-Marie McDermott. Mr. Neubauer is the artistic director of the *Mostly Music* series in New Jersey and is on the faculty of The Juilliard School and Mannes College.

Pianist **Anne-Marie McDermott** is a consummate artist who balances a versatile career as a soloist and collaborator. She recently premiered a concerto written for her by Poul Ruders as well as a solo piano sonata by Charles Wuorinen. She has performed with the Philadelphia, Minnesota, Los Angeles Chamber and Australian Chamber orchestras, the New York and Hong Kong philharmonics as well as the Dallas, National, Houston, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Atlanta, New Jersey and Baltimore symphonies. Ms. McDermott has recorded the complete Prokofiev Piano Sonatas, Bach English Suites and Partitas (which was named Gramophone Magazine's Editor's Choice), and most recently, Gershwin Complete Works for Piano and Orchestra with the Dallas Symphony and Justin Brown. Ms. McDermott is the Artistic Director of the famed Vail Valley Music Festival in Colorado, which hosts the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Dallas Symphony in addition to numerous chamber music concerts. She was named an artist member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in 1995 and continues a long standing collaboration with the highly acclaimed violinist, Nadja Salerno Sonnenberg. She continues to perform each season with her sisters, Maureen McDermott and Kerry McDermott in the McDermott Trio. She has also released an all Schumann CD with violist, Paul Neubauer, as well as the Complete Chamber Music of Debussy with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Ms. McDermott studied at the Manhattan School of Music with Dalmo Carra, Constance Keene and John Browning. She was a winner of the Young Concert Artists auditions and was awarded an Avery Fisher Career Grant.