

KANTTILA MANAGEMENT

ARTIST
DOSSIER

BIOGRAPHY · CV

Helena Juntunen

Soprano

Biography

Helena Juntunen



Finnish soprano Helena Juntunen combines an international operatic career with a substantial concert and recording profile. Her recent work places particular emphasis on twentieth-century opera, contemporary Finnish works and the music of Sibelius. In 2026, she sang Solveig in the world premiere of Sebastian Fagerlund's *Morgonstjärnan* at Finnish National Opera in Helsinki. Her engagements that year also include Patricia in Kaija Saariaho's *Innocence* at the Royal Danish Opera in Copenhagen.

Ms. Juntunen's recent stage work includes Salome in Wuppertal in 2024 and 2025, Leonore in *Fidelio* at Teatro Petruzzelli in Bari in 2024, and Marie in *Wozzeck* at Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe in 2021 and 2023. Her wider repertoire encompasses Countess Almaviva and Donna Elvira in Lyon, Clara in *Der Zwerg*, Marietta in *Die tote Stadt* and the title role in *Káťa Kabanová* at Opéra National de Lorraine, as well as Greta Graumann in *Der ferne Klang* in Strasbourg and Marie/Marietta at Theater Basel.

On the concert platform, Sibelius remains central to Ms. Juntunen's work. She sang *Luonnotar* and songs with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in 2025, following Sibelius songs with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra in 2024. Her recent engagements also include Mahler's *Second Symphony* with the Helsinki Philharmonic in 2025 and the Lapland Chamber Orchestra in 2026, and Strauss's *Vier letzte Lieder* with the Seoul Philharmonic in 2024. *Kullervo* with Copenhagen Phil is announced for February 2027. Her recordings for Ondine and BIS include the first orchestral recordings of Sibelius's *Höstkväll* and *Hertig Magnus*.

A regular guest at Finnish National Opera since 1999, Ms. Juntunen has sung Zdenka, Sophie, Mimì, Pamina and Rosalinde there, alongside roles in world premieres by Jüri Reinvere and Sebastian Fagerlund. Pamina has also taken her to Aix-en-Provence under Daniel Harding, La Monnaie under René Jacobs, Geneva, the Wiener Festwochen, Theater an der Wien and Dresden. Her breakthrough as Marguerite in *Faust* at Savonlinna in 2002 was followed by debuts at Connecticut Opera, Teatro Carlo Felice in Genoa, Vlaamse Opera and Semperoper Dresden in 2003/04, and concerts at Carnegie Hall and in Tokyo. Earlier orchestral collaborations include the Berliner Philharmoniker, BBC Symphony Orchestra and Royal Stockholm Philharmonic.

Ms. Juntunen began her vocal studies with Airi Tokola at Oulu Conservatoire and earned her Master of Music at the Sibelius Academy with Anita Välkki. She won the women's division of the Lappeenranta Singing Competition in 2002 and received the Karita Mattila Prize in 2006.

Curriculum vitae

Helena Juntunen

SOPRANO

NATIONALITY Finland

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance artist



SELECTED HOUSES AND FESTIVALS

Finnish National Opera (regular guest since 1999) · Opéra National de Lyon · Festival d'Aix-en-Provence · Semperoper Dresden · La Monnaie – De Munt · Grand Théâtre de Genève · Opéra National du Rhin · GöteborgsOperan

Performed on Stage

Selected

ROLE	WORK / COMPOSER	THEATRE / FESTIVAL	YEAR
Mother-in-Law (Patricia)	Innocence <i>Saariaho</i>	Royal Danish Opera	2026
Solveig	Morgonstjärnan <i>Fagerlund</i>	Finnish National Opera	2026
Salome	Salome <i>R. Strauss</i>	Oper Wuppertal	2025 2024
Leonore	Fidelio <i>Beethoven</i>	Fondazione Petruzzelli	2024
Rosalinde	Die Fledermaus <i>J. Strauss II</i>	Finnish National Opera	2024 2023
Marie	Wozzeck <i>Berg</i>	Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe	2023 2021
Mimi	La bohème <i>Puccini</i>	Tampere Opera	2019
Thaïs	Thaïs <i>Massenet</i>	Finnish National Opera	2016 2015

Performed on Stage

Selected

ROLE	WORK / COMPOSER	THEATRE / FESTIVAL	YEAR
Donna Elvira	Don Giovanni <i>Mozart</i>	Opéra National de Lyon	2011
Countess Almaviva	Le nozze di Figaro <i>Mozart</i>	Opéra Nice Côte d'Azur	2008
Olympia	Alexander's Feast <i>Händel</i>	Wiener Staatsoper, Großes Festspielhaus Salzburg	2006
Marguerite	Faust <i>Gounod</i>	Connecticut Opera	2004 2003
Pamina	Die Zauberflöte <i>Mozart</i>	Semperoper Dresden	2004 2003
Marguerite	Faust <i>Gounod</i>	Savonlinna Opera Festival	2002
Countess Ceprano	Rigoletto <i>Verdi</i>	Savonlinna Opera Festival	2002



In Concert

Selected

ROLE	WORK / COMPOSER	VENUE / ENSEMBLE	YEAR
Soprano soloist	Kullervo, Op. 7 <i>Sibelius</i>	Copenhagen Phil	2027
Soprano soloist	Hellun Hellalla – Onni	Kymi Sinfonietta	2026
Soprano soloist	Symphony No. 2, Resurrection <i>Mahler</i>	Lapland Chamber Orchestra	2026
Soprano soloist	Sinfoniaorkesteri tutuksi – vapaus	Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra	2026
Soprano soloist	Symphony No. 9 <i>Beethoven</i>	Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra	2025
Soprano soloist	The Tempest, Op. 109 <i>Sibelius</i>	Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra	2025
Soloist	Luonnotar / songs <i>Sibelius</i>	City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra	2025
Soprano soloist	Symphony No. 2, Resurrection <i>Mahler</i>	Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra	2025
Soprano soloist	Symphony No. 9 <i>Beethoven</i>	Lahti Symphony Orchestra	2024
Soloist	Vappuaaton konsertti: kaiken takana on tango	Tapiola Sinfonietta	2024



In Concert

Selected

ROLE	WORK / COMPOSER	VENUE / ENSEMBLE	YEAR
Soprano II	Symphony No. 8 <i>Mahler</i>	Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra	2024
Soprano soloist	Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra: Independence Day Concert - Melodies In Blue And White	Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra	2024
Soprano soloist	Sibelius songs <i>Sibelius</i>	Sydney Symphony Orchestra	2024
Soprano soloist	Vier letzte Lieder <i>R. Strauss</i>	Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra	2024
Soprano soloist	Don Quichotte – concert	Poznań Philharmonic	2023



CURRICULUM VITAE

Education & distinctions

Master of Music
Sibelius Academy · with Anita Välkki

Vocal studies
Oulu Conservatoire · with Airi Tokola

Awards & competitions

2006 Karita Mattila Prize
Finland

2002 Lappeenranta Singing Competition: First Prize, women's division
Lappeenranta

