

Lavinia Dames, soprano

The outstanding Lavinia Dames also undergoes the greatest musical development as Grace, transforming from a timid girl to an ice-cold murderess, a masterly performance both in terms of fitness and acting. DIE DEUTSCHE BÜHNE

Lavinia Dames, born in Göttingen, is a passionate interpreter of 20th/21st century repertoire and an experienced stage performer. She received rave reviews for her stunning interpretation of Grace in the world premiere of Gordon Kampe's opera *Dogville* at the Aalto Theater Essen. The stage director David Hermann was awarded DER FAUST Prize in 2023 for this production.

Since the season 2014/15, Lavinia Dames has been a member of the soloist ensemble at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein Düsseldorf, where she has performed roles such as Sophie (*Der Rosenkavalier*), Susanna (*Le nozze di Figaro*), Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*), Pamina (*The Magic Flute*), Gretel (*Hansel and Gretel*), Nanetta (*Falstaff*), Norina (*Don Pasquale*), Musetta (*La Bohème*) and Servilia (*La Clemenza di Tito*). In 2019 she embodied Anabella in the world premiere of Anno Schreier's new opera *Schade, dass sie eine Hure war*.

Highlights of the season 2024/25 include Lavinia Dames' debuts as Chang-Haitang (Zemlinsky's *Kreidekreis*) and as Woglinde (*Das Rheingold*) at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein. She will also make a first appearance at the Acht Brücken Festival debuting in the main role of Simone in Kaija Saariaho's oratorio *La Passion de Simone* with the Gürzenich-Orchestra Cologne at the Oper Köln/Staatenhaus. In summer 2025, she will return as Flower Girl and 1. Knappe (*Parsifal*) at the Bayreuth Festival, following her successful debut in 2024.

Guest appearances and performances have taken her to the Komische Oper Berlin (Lauretta in *Gianni Schicchi*, Pamina), The Royal Swedish Opera Stockholm (Susanna), and the Royal Danish Opera Copenhagen (Susanna) as well as to the Theater St. Gallen (Adina in *L'elisir d'amore*). In 2017, she made her debut at the Bavarian State Opera Munich (Isotta in *Die Schweigsame Frau*). She returned to this house in the season 2021/22 performing the same role.

Furthermore, she sang concerts at the Wiener Konzerthaus (Schumann's *Das Paradies und die Peri*) and at the Wiener Musikverein. Lavinia Dames worked with the Dortmund Philharmonic Orchestra (Mahler's 2. Symphony, Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Brahms' *A German Requiem*), with the Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra (Mahler's 2. Symphony) as well as with the Göttingen Symphony Orchestra (Haydn's *The Creation*). In 2019, she sang Betty in Albert Lortzing's *Zum Großadmiral* at the Prinzregententheater Munich with the Munich Radio Orchestra. In the season 2020/21, she sang Benjamin Britten's *Les Illuminations* with the Saarländisches Staatsorchester.

The German soprano Lavinia Dames was a student of the Early Support of the Musically Highly Gifted (IFF) at the Hanover University of Music with Prof. Gerhard Faulstich until 2010 and continued her vocal studies at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna with Gabriele Lechner and Peter Edelmann, graduating with distinction in 2014.

Lavinia is a prizewinner of the Cantilena and Ferruccio Tagliavini Singing Competitions, as well as the winner of the Kärntner Sparkassen Music Scholarship. She is a multiple scholarship holder of the Young Musicians Foundation Bayreuth and in the season 2015/16 of the Mozart Society Dortmund.