

ELISABETH HETHERINGTON | SOPRANO

Elisabeth Hetherington is a Canadian soprano based in the Netherlands, known for her bold artistic vision and versatility across repertoire ranging from early music to contemporary and modern works. As the recipient of the **Netherlands Music Prize 2024** — the highest distinction for classical musicians in the Netherlands —, and of the **Borletti Buitoni Trust Award 2026** Elisabeth has become a highly sought-after soloist throughout Europe. She has been praised for her “fearless and powerful personality, flawless technique and breathtaking presentation” (*NRC*, 2020), as well as for her “beautiful voice, accompanied by great sensitivity, a very solid technique and refined taste. A singer to watch” (*Scherzo*, Madrid, 2023).

A passionate multidisciplinary artist, Elisabeth draws inspiration from her background in modern dance. Her long-standing collaboration with the Dutch dance company **LeineRoebana** has resulted in widely acclaimed productions in which her integration of voice and movement adds a powerful emotional dimension. As *Trouw* (2024) wrote: “Balancing between angular and fluid, she constantly adds new layers of emotion to the music with her entire body... Once trained as a dancer, she formed a dream team with LeineRoebana.” In her third collaboration with the company, **EUTERPIANS**, Elisabeth took centre stage: “She sings heavenly, as blue as her royal-blue costume. Meanwhile she moves fluidly with arms and torso, shaping her hands into a heart above her abdomen.” (*de Volkskrant*, 2024)

Elisabeth has created powerful roles with major opera companies in the Netherlands and has been praised for her strong stage presence and clear, distinctive voice. Her roles include **Judith** in *Bluebeard's Castle*, **Susanna** in *Divorce of Figaro*, **Senta** in *The Flying Dutchman*, **Theodora** in *Theodora*, and **Cordelia** in *King Lear*. About her portrayal of Judith, *de Volkskrant* (2024) wrote: “Soprano Elisabeth Hetherington... portrays a particularly captivating Judith with her pure, magical, floating voice — dreamy yet self-assured. ... In the moving final scene her voice seems to stop time.”

Following her widely acclaimed residency at the **November Music Festival 2024** — where she curated and performed seven original concerts — Elisabeth has increasingly taken the lead in shaping her own artistic projects. In close collaboration with leading soloists and ensembles, she develops programmes that connect disciplines, eras and repertoire. In the coming seasons she will appear with, among others, the **Residentie Orkest**, **Phion**, **Het Muziek (formerly Askó|Schönberg)**, **Orchestra of the Eighteenth Century**, **B'Rock Orchestra**, and **Cappella Amsterdam**. She will also present several programmes with lutenist **Asako Ueda**, baroque harpist **Emma Huijsser**, and pianist/composer **Paolo Gorini**.

Alongside her performing career, Elisabeth is active as a mentor and teacher. She collaborates with conservatories across the Netherlands and gives workshops and coaching in singing, movement and Historically Informed Performance Practice. She has also become a leading voice in the specialised field of **Original Pronunciation of Elizabethan English**. Thanks to her expertise, she is regularly invited to give lectures and workshops.

Elisabeth received her **Bachelor of Voice Performance** from the **University of Toronto** and graduated *cum laude* from the **Master of Historical Performance** programme at the **Conservatorium van Amsterdam**, where she studied with **Xenia Meijer**.

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