Sunday 27 September 2020:
Tabatha McFadyen, via Zoom

Tabatha McFadyen's talk about singing and directing
4 - 5.30pm, Sunday 27 September 2020
via Zoom

Originally trained as a classical singer, **Tabatha McFadyen** is now primarily active as a director of both opera and theatre. Tabatha's first engagement with Opera Australia was in 2015 as an extra chorister in Graeme Murphy's production of Turandot. In 2020, Tabatha returned to the company as a Trainee Director, under the umbrella of the Opera Australia Young Artist Programme. This would involve directing a new production of Rembrandt's Wife by Australian composer Andrew Ford, and acting as Assistant Director in productions of La Traviata (Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour), La Juive and Lohengrin. Unfortunately all were postponed or cancelled due to the coronavirus.

Tabatha made her directorial debut with Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Brisbane Shakespeare Festival in October 2019. As an assistant director, she has worked alongside directors such as Barrie Kosky (Frühlingsstürme, Komische Oper Berlin, 2020), Tomo Sugao (Götterdämmerung, Mainfranken Theater, Würzburg, 2019, for which Tabatha received **Wagner Society in NSW** funding assistance), and Tama Matheson (Brian Howard's Metamorphosis, Opera Australia, 2018; and Menotti's Amahl and the Night Visitors, Manuel Theatre, Malta, 2018.)

Tabatha also actively engages as a performer, most recently featuring as the soprano soloist in A Christmas Carol in the Royal Albert Hall (Words and Music), and jumping in for the Sydney season of Metamorphosis as Greta. She has performed with conductors such as Johannes Fritzsch, Giordano Bellincampi and Vladimir Ashkenazy, and also, having a particular bent towards contemporary composition, with some of Australia's finest chamber musicians. She has been a finalist in the Australian Singing Competition, the Hans Gabor Belvedere International Singing Competition (Latvia), and was the first prize winner of the 49th International Antonin Dvorak Singing Competition. She also won the National Liederfest and the Mietta Song Prize with long-time musical collaborator, Alex Raineri. Tabatha managed to complete both a Bachelor of Music with First Class Honours and a Graduate Certificate in Opera at Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University, which she followed with postgraduate study at the Universität Mozarteum, Salzburg.