

## 250 Word Bio

Grace Heldridge, a mezzo-soprano from Omaha, Nebraska, is an incoming member of the 2024/25 Internationales Opernstudio at Komische Oper Berlin. Heldridge makes her European debut as Windhexe/Gemüsefrau in Wittenbrink's *Die Kleine Hexe* later this fall. She performs as Amy Lawrence in Kurt Weill's *Tom Sawyer* next spring. She will spend the summer as a studio artist with Opera Maine, performing the mezzo role in Ricky Ian Gordon and Mark Campbell's Rappahannock County. Last season marked multiple concert appearances, including Ravel's *Shéhérazade* with the Brookline Symphony Orchestra, Mozart's *Requiem* (Alto Soloist) with Glens Falls Symphony, and Bach's *Cantata BWV 140* (Soprano Soloist) with Trinity Choir.

Heldridge spent summer '23 with Central City Opera as an Apprentice Artist, covering Lois Lane/Bianca in *Kiss Me, Kate*. She was awarded the Cady Young Artist Award. Her two previous summers were spent at the Seagle Festival performing in *Hello, Dolly!* (*Dolly*), *The Fantasticks* (*Bellomy*), and *Cendrillon* (*Dorothee*).

Heldridge is a graduate of Boston Conservatory at Berklee (M.M. Opera '23), where she studied with Rebecca Folsom. Productions with BCB include: *L'Étoile* (*Lazuli*), *Le Nozze di Figaro* (*Cherubino*), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (*Hermia*), *As One* (*Hannah Older*), *Albert Herring* (*Nancy*), and *La Clemenza di Tito* (*Annio*). She was named the 2022/2023 Miles A. Fish III Scholar.

Heldridge received her undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas (B.M. Voice '21), studying with Joyce Castle. She won the Haven Preyer Award for voice in 2021 and was a Met Opera Laffont Competition Encouragement Winner (Tulsa District) the same year.