

Melanie Sarakatsannis, lyric soprano has a varied repertoire including, Anne Trulove in *The Rake's Progress*, Despina in *Così fan Tutte* and Magda in *La Rondine*. She has performed both leading and supporting roles with the Santa Fe Opera, Palm Beach Opera, Chautauqua Opera, Orlando Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera and New York City Opera. She made her New York City Opera debut reprising the role of Sophie in Tobias Picker's *Emmeline*, a role she created at the Santa Fe Opera that was later telecast nationally on PBS and released by Albany Records.

She made her Carnegie Hall debut as Soprano soloist in Schubert's *Masses in G and B-flat* and Beethoven's *Mass in C*.

Most recently, Ms. Sarakatsannis sang the first American performance with full orchestra of James Whitbourn's Grammy nominated Oratorio *Anneliese* with The Academy Chorale under the direction of Michael Kemp.

Ms. Sarakatsannis was also heard in concert with Kammermusik singing the newly discovered (2005) *Gloria* by Handel.

Upcoming for the busy Soprano will be, Handel's *Messiah* with the Concord Singers, Poulenc's *Stabat Mater* with the Philadelphia Chorus and the rarely performed *St. Paul* by Felix Mendelssohn with the Wayne Oratorio Society.

Recent opera performances include an appearance as Gilda in Verdi's *Rigoletto* with the Fargo Moorehead Opera. She was also featured in two solo recitals with the *Artist Series of Sarasota* in Sarasota, Florida, and returned to the Philadelphia Chorus in the Haydn *Harmoniemesse* and Mozart *Vespers*.

She is a Palm Beach Opera competition winner, a finalist in the Stewart National Opera Competition, A Richard F. Gold Career Grant winner and Regional Finalist for the Metropolitan Opera National Council.

Other oratorio performances to her credit include *The Messiah* with the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra with Maestro Robert Porco as well as Mozart's *C-minor Mass* and *Messiah* with the Richmond Symphony under the baton of George Manahan.

Ms. Sarakatsannis holds Masters and Bachelors degrees in Vocal Performance from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music in Bloomington, Indiana.