

Mezzo-soprano Katherine Drago recently completed a three-year residency with Pittsburgh Opera where she was consistently praised for her solid singing and sharp characterizations. While in Pittsburgh, she appeared in six productions, highlights of which include Meg Page in *Falstaff*, Mercedes in *Carmen* and the Stewardess in *Flight*. She covered in an additional four productions and performed Romeo in *I Capuleti e I Montecchi* and Cherubino in *Le Nozze di Figaro* during student matinee performances as well.

In the summer 2009, as a second-year Apprentice Artist with the Santa Fe Opera, Katherine made her role debut as Zerlina in *Don Giovanni* after stepping in at the last minute for the final three performances. Also, during the 2008-09 season she debuted with Opera Vivente in the role of Ottavia in *The Coronation of Poppea*.

Other credits include Marquise de Merteuil/*The Dangerous Liaisons* and Dinah/*Trouble in Tahiti* both at CCM; Ruth/*Pirates of Penzance* (Music by the Lake); Orlofsky/*Die Fledermaus* (Rising Star Opera Theater); Hansel/*Hansel and Gretel* (Milwaukee Opera Theater, Opera for the Young).

In addition to being an Apprentice Artist with The Santa Fe Opera (2008, 2009), she was a featured young artist with Chicago Opera Theater, Berkshire Opera, The Lake Placid Institute and Intermezzo Opera. While with Chicago Opera Theater she debuted on their main stage in the role of Venere in *L'Incoronazione di Poppea* and sang the role of the French Mother in their critically acclaimed production of *Death in Venice*.

An active soloist, she most recently debuted with the Acadiana Symphony Orchestra in Lafayette, LA and has also sung with the Lebanon Symphony (OH), Asheville Symphony, Peninsula Music Festival, Cheyenne Symphony, Chatham Baroque, Erie Philharmonic, Berkshire Choral Festival, and an evening of songs by Ricky Ian Gordon with the composer at the piano.

Ms. Drago is the recipient of awards from the National Association of Teachers of Singing, the Bel Canto Foundation, The Santa Fe Opera (Donald S. Graham Memorial Award), and the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

A native of Chicago, she holds degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) and Northwestern University. Immediately upon graduating from Northwestern, Ms. Drago toured the United States with the Broadway National Tour of *The Phantom of the Opera* in which she performed the roles of the Wardrobe Mistress and Confidante. This season's engagements include a concert of music by Ricky Ian Gordon with the Five Boroughs Music Festival in NYC, a return to the Santa Fe Symphony for Handel's *Messiah*, as well as presenting "The Nuts, Bolts, & Secrets of Covering" for Opera America's *Making Connections* series in NYC. Upcoming: Zaida in *Il Turco in Italia* with Tacoma Opera and the title role in *La Périchole* with Amarillo Opera.

Upcoming Engagements

Zaida	IL TURCO IN ITALIA	Tacoma Opera	2011
La Périchole	LA PERICHOLE	Amarillo Opera	2012

Opera

Cherubino (Student Matinee)	LE NOZZE DI FIGARO	Pittsburgh Opera	2010
Mercedes	CARMEN	Pittsburgh Opera	2010
Bianca	THE RAPE OF LUCRETIA	Pittsburgh Opera	2010
Meg Page	FALSTAFF	Pittsburgh Opera	2009
Olga (cover)	EUGENE ONEGIN	Pittsburgh Opera	2009
Zerlina	DON GIOVANNI	The Santa Fe Opera	2009
La Périchole (scenes)	LA PERICHOLE	The Santa Fe Opera	2009
Zulma	L'ITALIANA IN ALGERI	Pittsburgh Opera	2009
Ottavia	L'INCORONAZIONE DI POPPEA	Opera Vivente	2009
Ma Joad (cover)	THE GRAPES OF WRATH	Pittsburgh Opera	2008
Second Bridesmaid	LE NOZZE DI FIGARO	The Santa Fe Opera	2008
Zerlina (scenes)	DON GIOVANNI	The Santa Fe Opera	2008
Romeo (Student Matinee)	I CAPULETI E I MONTECCHI	Pittsburgh Opera	2008
Stewardess	FLIGHT (J. DOVE)	Pittsburgh Opera	2008
Kate Pinkerton	MADAMA BUTTERFLY	Pittsburgh Opera	2007
Marquise de Merteuil	THE DANGEROUS LIAISONS	College-Conservatory of Music	2007
Dinah	TROUBLE IN TAHITI	College-Conservatory of Music	2006
Marcellina (cover)	LE NOZZE DI FIGARO	Chicago Opera Theatre	2005
Hansel	HANSEL AND GRETEL	Opera for the Young	2005
Venere	L'INCORONAZIONE DI POPPEA	Chicago Opera Theatre	2004
French Mother	DEATH IN VENICE	Chicago Opera Theatre	2004

Musical Theater/Operetta

Wardrobe Mistress/Confidante	THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA	Broadway 3 rd National Tour	2003
Ruth	PIRATES OF PENZANCE	Music by the Lake	2004

Concert Work

<i>Messiah</i> , Handel	The Santa Fe Symphony	Con: Tom Hall	2010
Music of Ricky Ian Gordon	Five Boroughs Music Festival	New York, NY	2010
Opera Spectacular	Acadiana Symphony Orchestra	Con: Mariusz Smolij	2010
<i>Messiah</i> , Handel	The Santa Fe Symphony	Con: Tom Hall	2009
Bright Eyed Joy	Pittsburgh Opera-Concert	Ricky Ian Gordon, piano	2008
Zerlina/Rosina (partial roles)	DON GIOVANNI/BARBIERE	Erie Philharmonic, Con: D. Meyer	2008
<i>Lamento della ninfa</i> (Monteverdi)	MUSIC OF LOVE AND WAR	Chatham Baroque	2008
<i>Mass in C</i> , Beethoven	Asheville (NC) Symphony	Con: Daniel Meyer	2007
<i>Magnificat</i> , Bach	Lebanon (OH) Symphony Orchestra	Con: David Donovan	2007
<i>Christmas Oratorio</i> , Bach	Cheyenne Symphony	Con: Stephen Alltop	2005
<i>Sechs Gesänge Op.13</i> , Zemlinsky	Northwestern Philharmonia (guest artist)	Con: Viktor Yampolsky	2004
<i>Dixit Dominus</i> , Handel	Peninsula Music Festival	Con: Viktor Yampolsky	2004
The Vienna Project	Berkshire Opera Company	Joel Revzen, piano	2002

Awards

Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions	Regional Finalist	2007, 2009
Donald S. Graham Memorial Award	The Santa Fe Opera	2009

Education

Master of Music	University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music	2007
Bachelor of Music	Northwestern University	2003
Michael Chekhov Techniques	k. Jenny Jones	College-Conservatory of Music
Advanced Meisner Techniques	Ted Hoerl	The Actor's Center Chicago
Meisner; Viewpoints	Kim Rubinstein	Northwestern University

Voice: Barbara Honn; Sunny Joy Langton; Karen Brunssen

Coaches: Gene Cline; Cliff Jackson; Mark Trawka; Glenn Lewis; Alan Darling; James Lesniak

Conductors: Antony Walker; Jane Glover; Alexander Platt; Gary Thor Wedow; Kenneth Montgomery; Lawrence Renes

Directors: Ken Cazan; Diane Paulis; Michael Ehrman; Christopher Cowell; Jonathan Kent; Kathleen Clawson