



The Opera, Oratorio & Concert Agency



Cheryse McLeod Lewis

Mezzo-Soprano

UPCOMING ENGAGEMENTS

Opera

Eleganza Residency
Hansel and Gretel
The Promise

Role

Duet Recital & Workshop
Hansel
Coretta Scott King

Company

Johnson C. Smith Lyceum Series
Greensboro Opera
Greensboro Opera

Year

2007
2007
2008

OPERA AND OPERETTA.

Opera

Amahl and the Night Visitors
Salome
Carmen
Carmen
Hansel and Gretel
Lucia di Lammermoor
Rigoletto
The Tempest
Il barbiere di Siviglia
Salome
Amahl/Night Visitors
The Magic Flute
Die Fledermaus
Beatrice di Tenda
The Consul
Tosca

Role

Mother
Page
Carmen
Carmen
Hansel
Alisa
Giovanna
Ceres
Berta
Page
Mother
Papagena
Prince Orlofsky
Agnese del Maino
Secretary
Shepherd Boy

Company

Opera Carolina
The Opera Company of N.C.
Asheville Lyric Opera
South Carolina Opera
Connecticut Opera
Connecticut Opera
Connecticut Opera
Long Leaf Opera
Connecticut Opera
Connecticut Opera
Connecticut Opera
Connecticut Opera
Houston Ebony Opera
Greensboro Opera
A.J. Fletcher Opera Institute
UNCG Opera Theatre
Greensboro Opera

Year

2006
2006
2005
2005
2004
2004
2004
2004
2003
2003
2003
2002
2002
2002
2002
2000
1999

ROLES IN REPERTOIRE

Opera

Il barbiere di Siviglia
Madama Butterfly
Così fan tutte

Role

Rosina (Cover)
Suzuki (Cover)
Dorabella (Cover)

Company

Connecticut Opera
Connecticut Opera
Spoleto Festival USA

Year

2003
2003
2002

ORATORIO AND CONCERT

Oratorio/Concert

Eleganza in Concert
Eleganza Residency
Eleganza in Concert
Messiah
Soloist—*An Evening of Carolina Voices*
Eleganza in Concert
Soloist
Soloist

Organization

St. Stephens Episcopal Concert Series
NC A&T State University
Westminster Concert Series
Greensboro Oratorio Society
The Opera Company of North Carolina
Concord University Guest Artist Recital Series
New Britain Symphony
North Carolina Symphony

Year

2006
2006
2006
2005
2005
2005
2004
2002

COMPETITIONS

Placement

Fourth Place
Second Place
Encouragement Award
Second Place

Competition

Charles Lynam Vocal Competition
Connecticut Opera Guild
NC District Metropolitan Opera National Council
Opera Guild of Charlotte

Year

2005
2004
2003
2001

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Cheryse McLeod Lewis

Mezzo-Soprano

TRAINING

<u>Degree/Course</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Year</u>
Resident Artist	Connecticut Opera	02-04
Apprentice Artist	Houston Ebony Opera	2002
Professional Artist Certificate	A.J. Fletcher Opera Institute	2002
Master of Music in Vocal Performance	University of North Carolina at Greensboro	2001
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Vocal Performance	Carnegie Mellon University	1998
Opera Studio	American Institute of Musical Studies	1997

INSTRUCTION

Teachers

Carla LeFevre
Marion Pratkanicki
Constance Rock

Coaches

Benton Hess
Katherine Chu
Ellen Rievman
Angela Vanstony-Ward

Conductors/Directors

Willie Anthony Waters
Valéry Ryvkin
James Albritten
Jeffrey Pollock
Will Graham
Ellen Douglas Schlaefer
David Holley

REVIEWS

Asheville Citizen-Times Martha A. Fawbush 1/31/2005 (Carmen/**Carmen**, Asheville Lyric Opera-South Carolina Opera) "The rich, powerful mezzo-soprano of Cheryse McLeod in the title role offered a convincing portrayal of the many sides of Carmen, from her flirtatiousness and fickleness to the dark side of her character, revealed in her unfaithfulness to Don Jose and her pursuit of the torero Don Escamillo. McLeod's voice moved effortlessly from laughing flirtation to her frank expressions of interest in most men whom she encountered; and her expressions of Carmen's fiery emotional reactions when her motivations were questioned filled the hall with stunning vocal power."

Opera News Online David Shengold 11/18/2004 (Hansel and Gretel/**Hansel**, Connecticut Opera) "Cheryse McLeod produced rich lyric-mezzo sound...and gave endearing characterizations, moving well under Wendy Taucher's sensible direction."

Opera News Online David Shengold 3/28/2004 (Lucia di Lammermoor/**Alisa**, Connecticut Opera) "The best of the others was Cheryse McLeod's rich-voiced Alisa."

Classical Voice of North Carolina William Thomas Walker 2/24/2002 (Die Fledermaus/**Prince Orlofsky**, Greensboro Opera) "I was delighted with the bored aristocrat of mezzo-soprano Cheryse McLeod in the pants role of Prince Orlofsky. Her fake accent was good, her use of her lower range made the pants role more convincing than usual and her body language was in character."

Greensboro News & Record Abe D. Jones Jr. 2/24/2002 (Die Fledermaus/**Prince Orlofsky**, Greensboro Opera) "Cheryse McLeod sings the prince's part in her clear mezzo-soprano voice."

Classical Voice of North Carolina Elizabeth and Joe Kahn 2/8/2002 (Beatrice di Tenda/**Agnese del Maino**, A.J. Fletcher Opera Institute) "[Cheryse] McLeod has a rich, large voice."

Raleigh News & Observer Roy C. Dicks, 2/7/2002 ((Beatrice di Tenda/**Agnese del Maino**, A.J. Fletcher Opera Institute) "Cheryse McLeod brings to Agnese a big, clear mezzo with a striking stage presence."

BIO

Mezzo-Soprano Cheryse McLeod Lewis: Whether sparking the stage aflame with her fiery and sensual Carmen or dissolving an audience into laughter with her dry and witty *Orlofsky*, mezzo-soprano Cheryse McLeod brings a striking vocal and physical presence to the stage. Of Ms. McLeod Lewis' debut as *Carmen* with Asheville Lyric Opera and South Carolina Opera, Martha A. Fawbush of the *Asheville Citizen-Times* commended McLeod Lewis' voice for filling the hall with "stunning vocal power" and for moving "effortlessly from laughing flirtation to...Carmen's fiery emotional reactions." For her role as *Hansel* in ***Hansel and Gretel*** with Connecticut Opera, David Shengold of *Opera News Online* praised Ms. McLeod Lewis for her "rich lyric-mezzo sound" and "endearing characterizations".

Ms. McLeod Lewis' operatic repertoire embraces a wide range of roles including *Carmen* (***Carmen***), *Hansel* (***Hansel and Gretel***), *Prince Orlofsky* (***Die Fledermaus***), *The Mother* (***Amahl and the Night Visitors***), *Dorabella* (***Così fan tutte***), *Rosina* (***Il barbiere di Siviglia***), *Cherubino* (***Le Nozze di Figaro***), *Suzuki* (***Madama Butterfly***), and *The Secretary* (***The Consul***). Upcoming engagements for Ms. McLeod Lewis include *Hansel* in ***Hansel and Gretel*** with Greensboro Opera (2007), and *Coretta Scott King* in the world premiere of ***The Promise*** with Greensboro Opera (2008).

On the concert stage, Ms. McLeod Lewis has appeared as the Mezzo-Soprano Soloist in ***The Messiah*** with the Greensboro Oratorio Society and as a soloist with The Opera Company of North Carolina in their popular "*Evening of Carolina Voices*" concert. She also performs in concert with her duo group *Eleganza* (RCAM Ensemble). During the 2005-2006 season, *Eleganza* performed/lectured on the NC A&T State University Lyceum Series and the Concord University Guest Artist Concert Series. Upcoming engagements for *Eleganza* during the 2006-2007 season include guest artist appearances on the Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church Concert Series and the Johnson C. Smith State University Lyceum Series.

Ms. McLeod Lewis, a native of Greensboro, NC, earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Vocal Performance from Carnegie Mellon University, her Master of Music in Vocal Performance from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and her Professional Artist Certificate from the A.J. Fletcher Opera Institute at the North Carolina School of the Arts.

REFERENCES

Willie Anthony Waters, General & Artistic Director, Connecticut Opera, wanthonywaters@aol.com, 860-527-0713
Linda Jackson, Managing Director, Connecticut Opera, ljackson@ctopera.org, 860-527-0713

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