

Amy Christianna BLAKE



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Hailed for her “beautiful singing” by *The New York Times*, Amy Christianna Blake combines a rich expressive soprano voice with dynamic interpretations. Her exciting and moving performances of a diverse operatic and concert repertoire have firmly established her as one of today's most promising artists on the international stage. In opera she has garnered praise for her “tremendous power and stage presence” (*NY Times*). For her artistry as a recitalist, she has received high acclaim. “Ms. Blake sang with such inner conviction, eloquence, passion and elegance that she brought the house down.” (*New Music Connoisseur*).

In the future, Ms. Blake will be performing **Donna Anna** in *Don Giovanni* and **Musetta** in *La Bohème* with Opera Panama, **Lisa** de *Le Pays de Sourire* and **Rusalka** in Dvořák's opera with *Nice et Arts* and will be giving recitals at the **VIVA VERDI** Ceriana (Italy), **Festival Ninon Vallin 2011** in Montalieu-Vercieu and the **Franz Liszt Festival Levens**, France. She has received the prize of a Residency at the **Fondation Royaumont** in order to prepare her program for Festival Ninon Vallin.

The 2008/2009 season included highlights of the title roles **Thaïs** and **Louise** with *Nice et Arts* and **Anna Bolena** and **Desdemona** in Verdi's *Otello* with *Le Cadran Lyrique*, also in Nice. Ms. Blake also gave recitals for the Château of Mouans-Sartoux, for the Rogoland Kunstmuseum, Stavanger, Norway and the Summer Festival of Music at the Château of Vins-sur-Caramy.

The 2008/2007 season saw Ms. Blake perform the **Countess** in *Le Nozze di Figaro* with Working Title Opera with Bill Lewis and **Mimi** in *La Bohème* with Brooklyn Opera with Steven Crawford.

Between 2004 and 2006, roles included **Violetta** in *La Traviata* with the Caramoor Opera Festival, Will Crutchfield conducting.; **Donna Elvira** in *Don Giovanni* with H&K Productions, NYC; **Elena** in *Paride ed Elena* by Gluck at Caramoor; Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte* with the Natchez Opera Festival and **Marschallin** in *Der Rosenkavalier* with Opera Carlone (NYC) under the direction of Richard Marshall. In 2003 Ms. Blake created the leading role of **Juana la Loca III** in the world premiere of *Rage d'Amour* at Tanglewood Music Center under the baton of Stefan Asbury. Prior to 2003 Ms. Blake's roles included the **Prima Donna** in Donizetti's *Le Convenienze ed Inconvenienze Teatrali* with the New York Chamber Opera, all the heroines of *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* with the Liederkrantz Opera Theater under the baton of Liz Hastings, and **Musetta** in *La Bohème* with Natchez Festival Opera. Ms. Blake sang the roles of **Octavian** in *Der Rosenkavalier* and **Prince Orlofsky** in *Die Fledermaus* with the American Institute of Musical Studies Orchestra in Graz, Austria, under the baton of Cornelius Eberhardt.

In concert Ms. Blake has sung with the Astoria Symphony Orchestra, Goliard Symphony Orchestra, and the Brooklyn Philharmonic in repertoire ranging from Handel's *Messiah* and Berlioz' *Nuits d'été* to Berg's *Sieben Frühe Lieder* and Bernstein's *West Side Story*.

An accomplished recitalist whose song repertoire spans nine languages, Amy Blake has given recitals in New York City (Merkin Hall and the Elaine Kaufman Center, Symphony Space) and for the Festival au Village in Pourrières, France. A new music enthusiast, she has performed the world premieres of works written specially for her by Paul Brantley, Hampson Sisler, David Eddelman, Zack Patten, Yuka Takechi and Robert Zuidam.

Holder of Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from Texas Tech University, Ms. Blake also trained at the Bel Canto Institute with Jane Klaviter and as a young artist with the Tanglewood Music Center, Des Moines Metro Opera and Natchez Opera Festival. She was a finalist in the 2005 Lyric Opera Center for American Artists in Chicago and she was awarded the Licia Albanese-Puccini Foundation Grant. She is the recipient of the Hewitt Vocal Scholarship. Having grown up in West Texas, she now resides in Nice, France and studies with Marie José Roland Ganiere.