



*Anastasia Nikolova*, soprano

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Soprano Anastasia Nikolova has attained special recognition for a voice of striking beauty and sophistication. A native of Bulgaria, Ms. Nikolova started her musical training at the age of 5, which included drama and dance at the Bulgarian National Theatre. She commenced her vocal training at the Plovdiv Music Academy (Plovdiv) and continued it at the Longy School of Music (Cambridge, Massachusetts). During the 2003-2004 season Ms. Nikolova completed an apprenticeship with Central Florida Lyric Opera and was invited to return as a Resident Artist with the company.

Opera roles include: Violetta in *La Traviata* (Central Florida Lyric Opera, Fine Arts Chorale & Orchestra); Nedda in *Pagliacci* (Central Florida Lyric Opera); Micaëla and Frasquita in *Carmen*, under the directorship of legendary soprano Licia Albanese (Central Florida Lyric Opera); Countess in *Le Nozze di Figaro* (Central Florida Lyric Opera); Hexe in *Hänsel und Gretel* (Andover, Massachusetts); Member of the Chamber in a premiere performance of Eric Sawyer's *Our American Cousin* (Composers in Red Sneakers).

Solo concert engagements include J.S. Bach's *Mein Herze schwimmt im Blut*, J.S. Bach's *Magnificat in D*, J.S. Bach's *Missa revis in A*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Mozart's *Missa Brevis in F*, Mozart's *Missa Brevis in G*, Mozart's *Exsultate Jubilate*, Mozart's *Vesperae solennes de confessore*, Händel's *Messiah*, Haydn *Die Jahreszeiten*, Schubert's *Mass in G*, Dubois' *Seven Last Words of Christ*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Vaughan Williams' *Dona novis pacem*, Mendelssohn's *Midsummer Night's Dream* among others. As a concert artist, Ms. Nikolova has given numerous art song recitals in the United States and in Europe. She has premiered works by prominent New England composers such as Eric Sawyer, Heather Gilligan and Vartan Aghababian; some of these works were written and dedicated to her.