

LIORA
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soprano

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BIOGRAPHY

Young American soprano Liora Michelle has performed classic lyric soprano roles to critical acclaim, including Mimi, Musetta, Micaëla, Nedda, Leonora (*Il Trovatore*) and Desdemona (*Otello*) among others, receiving praise for “the intensity of her performance and the extraordinary quality of her talent” (*Il Globo*) and her “heavenly sense of phrasing and timing” (*The Herald Sun*).

Born in New York to a Russian-Italian mother and Australian father, Ms. Michelle has both US and Australian citizenship. Though currently living in New York City, she became a celebrated artist in Melbourne, Australia during her extended years-long stay there. And in 2007 Liora returned to Australia for the national premiere of Verdi’s *Attila* in the formidable role of Odabella.

One of Liora’s many Australian concert appearances was as featured soprano in an EMI-sponsored tribute to Maria Callas performing excerpts from two of Callas’ signature operas, *Norma* and *Medea*. Liora was also given the distinct honor by the Italian Bureau of Cultural Affairs to perform for the globally broadcast Verdi Commemorative “Va Pensiero” Day. She continues her extension into the *bel canto* works with performances of the title role of Verdi’s *Giovanna d’Arco* in Central Park, Imogene in *Il Pirata* and *Lucrezia Borgia*.

An active recitalist, Ms. Michelle frequently sings programs of Russian, French, Italian, Spanish and German arias, art and popular songs around the NYC metropolitan area. Her repertoire includes Rachmaninoff’s rarely performed soprano opera arias for The International Rachmaninoff Society at New York’s historic Steinway Hall (“Ms. Michelle’s wonderful voice and dramatic presentation were inspiring.” (Rachmaninoff Society)) and the annual gala concert for New York’s Russian American Cultural Heritage Foundation (“RACH-C”). Liora has also performed at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Hall and the Liederkrantz Society, among other venues. Liora’s versatility extends to Viennese operetta and Broadway. She toured Australia with the Vue Grand Chamber Orchestra and performed in original biographic revues featuring the music of Cole Porter, Gershwin and Rodgers and Hammerstein. She was also regular featured soloist for Melbourne’s various popular open-air concert series for several years.

Recent and upcoming engagements include a concert tour of Japan and her first *Madama Butterfly* for Center Stage Opera, among various recitals and concerts, including appearances with Russian pianist Inna Leytush and award-winning Russian romance singer David Gvinianidze.

In addition to her singing gifts, Ms. Michelle is an accomplished cellist, linguist and dancer. She has been a competitive ballroom dancer and is also trained in flamenco and tap. Liora speaks Russian, French, Italian, German, Spanish and Mandarin, in addition to English. Ms. Michelle currently resides in New York City.



OPERA EXPERIENCE

Lucrezia	<i>Lucrezia Borgia</i>	West Side Opera, New York, 2012
Mimi	<i>La Bohème</i>	New York Grand Opera, Central Park, 2011 NYGO 2009 Delaware Valley Symphony 2005 Melbourne City Opera, Australia 1998
Imogene	<i>Il Pirata</i>	West Side Opera, New York, 2011
Violetta	<i>La Traviata</i>	Center Stage Opera, PA, 2011 Piccolo Opera, 2005 Liederkranz, 2004
Giovanna d'Arco	<i>Giovanna d'Arco</i> (Verdi)	New York Grand Opera, Central Park, 2010
Tatyana*	<i>Eugene Onegin</i>	RACH-C Foundation, NY, 2008, 2010
Cio-Cio San	<i>Madama Butterfly</i>	Center Stage Opera, PA, 2009
Leonora	<i>Il Trovatore</i>	New York Grand Opera, Central Park, 2009 Center City Opera, Kimmel Center, PA, 2008
Tosca	<i>Tosca</i>	New York Grand Opera Guild, 2009 Miami Lyric Opera Gala Concert, 2007
Odabella	<i>Attila</i>	Australian Premiere, 2007 Melbourne City Opera, BMW Edge Theatre
Desdemona	<i>Otello</i>	Miami Lyric Opera Gala Concert, 2007 Espresso Opera & Center Stage Opera, 2006
Nedda	<i>I Pagliacci</i>	Center Stage Opera, PA, 2007 Opera Company of Brooklyn, NY, 2006 Piccolo Opera, 2004 Australia, 1999
Norma	<i>Norma</i>	New York Salon & Weill Hall, NY, 2006
M. Broadbrim	<i>A.F.R.A.I.D.</i> (S.Stoderl)	Brooklyn Repertory Opera, 2006
Giorgetta*	<i>Il Tabarro</i>	Delaware Valley Symphony, PA, 2005
Donna Anna*	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	Weill Recital Hall, NY & Australia, 2004
Marguerite*	<i>Faust</i>	Axelrod Theatre, NJ, 2003 Weill Hall, NY, 2002
Micaëla	<i>Carmen</i>	Spray Farm Festival, Australia MCO: St Martin's 1998 Athenaeum Theatre, Australia, 1999
Donna Elvira*	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	Athenaeum Theatre, Australia, 2000
Musetta	<i>La Bohème</i>	The Comedy Theatre, Australia, 1998

*cover/concert

RECITALS/SHOWS (PARTIAL LIST)

Russian arias, songs	Russia America Cultural Heritage (RACH-C), 2010
Arias, Japanese songs	Concert Tour, Japan, 2009
Rachmaninoff arias	International Rachmaninoff Society, Steinway Hall, 2007
Méloides	Recitals, Aix-en-Provence, 2004
Cole Porter Revue	Australian tours, 1998-2002
Rodgers & Hammerstein Revue	Melbourne Crown Casino, 2000
Broadway	Wattle Park Summer Concert Series, Various, Australia, 1996-2001
Christmas Repertoire	Carols by Candlelight open-air concerts, Australia, 1996-2001
Viennese Operetta	Vue Grand Chamber Orchestra, Australia, 1997-2001
French songs, anthem, arias	Alliance Française, 2000-2001
Italian arias, Neapolitan songs	Istituto Italiano di Cultura and festivals, official events, 1996-2001
Ladino, Hebrew, Jewish Songs	B'nai B'rith, Rotary events, Australia, 1998-2000
Medea, Norma excerpts	EMI Tribute to Callas, Melbourne City Opera Orchestra, 2000
Bel Canto arias, duets	Exhibition opening, Victorian Arts Centre, 1999

Languages: French, Italian, Spanish, German, Mandarin, Russian

Dance: Ballroom, Latin, Flamenco, Tango Argentino, Lindy, Tap

Citizenship: USA, Australia

June 27, 2011

REVIEWS

"Liora Michelle triumphed in the title role (*Giovanna d'Arco*), her sumptuous soprano soared and she negotiated the difficult tessitura of the 'Sempre all' alba ed alla sera' with flexibility and flair. Many of her dramatic arias evoked the terrain of the future Verdi and made one wish to see and hear more of this young, gifted and attractive artist who recently was a memorable Leonora in *Il Trovatore* with the NYGO in Central Park. Whether singing with power or sweetness she was secure in her technique. The future looks bright for Ms. Michelle and this audience responded with cheers and bravas. Her exquisite trills, pianissimi and fiery bursts of passion still echo in memory."

—THE ITALIAN VOICE

"Liora Michelle, as Imogene [*Il Pirata*]...sang the long lines of cavatina, 'Lo sognai ferito, esangue,' ...in a soprano of purity and agility, and appended to it highly ornamented cabaletta 'Sventurata, anch'io deliro.' Michelle brought the opera to a close with a final cavatina, 'Col sorriso d'innocenza,' of pathos and cabaletta, 'Oh, Sole! ti vela di tenebre oscure,' of intensity."

—qonstage.com

"Ms. Michelle was a lovely Leonora with a captivating stage presence....most pleasing soprano voice with agility and style. Her singing 'D' amor sull'ali rosee'...found her voice in full bloom and the 'Miserere'...was sung with passion. Ms. Michelle's death notes at the finale floated beautifully... Michelle garnered generous applause from a most appreciative audience."

—The Italian Voice

"Liora Michelle in the part of Leonora...sang expressively"

—The New York Times

"Liora Michelle as Micaëla is a new face to watch. She has a heavenly sense of phrasing and timing."

—The Herald Sun

"The best of the evening is Liora Michelle...musically elegant, impish, sensual and elusive."

—The Age

"The other happy vocal surprise was Liora Michelle...a bright, true, attractive voice that absolutely reflected the French origins of the character."

—The Australian

"Liora Michelle gave a performance of the most beautiful Verdian arias...[she] touched the audience's heart with the intensity of her performance and the extraordinary quality of her talent."

—Il Globo

"...*La Bohème*, dove la protagonista Mimì era interpretata stupendamente dal soprano Liora Michelle."

—La Fiamma

"Ms. Michelle's wonderful voice and dramatic presentation were inspiring."

—The International Rachmaninoff Society

REPERTOIRE

ROLE	OPERA	COMPOSER
Imogene	<i>Il Pirata</i>	Bellini
Norma*	<i>Norma</i>	Bellini
Micaëla	<i>Carmen</i>	Bizet
Medea*	<i>Medea</i>	Charpentier
Marguerite*	<i>Faust</i>	Gounod
Juliette*	<i>Romeo et Juliette</i>	Gounod
Rosalinde*	<i>Die Fledermaus</i>	J. Strauss
Giuditta*	<i>Die Csárdásfürstin</i>	Kalman
Hanna Glawari*	<i>The Merry Widow</i>	Lehár
Giuditta*	<i>Das Land des Lächelns</i>	Lehár
Nedda	<i>I Pagliacci</i>	Leoncavallo
Fiordiligi*	<i>Così fan Tutte</i>	Mozart
Donna Anna	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	Mozart
Donna Elvira	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	Mozart
Countess*	<i>Le Nozze di Figaro</i>	Mozart
Antonia*	<i>Les Contes d'Hoffman</i>	Offenbach
Mimi	<i>La Bohème</i>	Puccini
Musetta	<i>La Bohème</i>	Puccini
Cio-Cio San	<i>Madama Butterfly</i>	Puccini
Tosca	<i>Tosca</i>	Puccini
Tatyana*	<i>Eugene Onegin</i>	Tchaikovsky
Odabella	<i>Attila</i>	Verdi
	<i>Il Corsaro</i>	Verdi
Elisabetta*	<i>Don Carlo</i>	Verdi
Giovanna d'Arco	<i>Giovanna d'Arco</i>	Verdi
Leonora	<i>Il Trovatore</i>	Verdi
Violetta	<i>La Traviata</i>	Verdi
Desdemona	<i>Otello</i>	Verdi
Amelia*	<i>Simon Boccanegra</i>	Verdi