

Laura Pedersen

Soprano

The versatile American singer Laura Pedersen brings to opera houses and to concert halls, an exciting lyric soprano voice, beauty and a rare ability to make each role come alive on stage.



In this 2012-2013, upcoming highlights are returning to Carnegie Hall with Opera Shorts Troupe in October, debuting in Reno with **Donna Anna**, in *Don Giovanni*, debuting in Fresno with **Nedda**, in *I Pagliacci* and singing her first Beethoven 9 with Firelands Symphony Orchestra. Also in 2011-12 and, Laura reprised the role of **Hanna Glawari** with Opera Delaware, as well as with Cedar Rapids Opera Theater in her home state of Iowa, which was broadcast live on Public Radio, she returned to the Opera Shorts Troupe for a performance at Carnegie Hall to sing a couple works, one in 2011 by Jake Heggie, and the 2012 season one by Scottish composer Graham Robb, debuted with Opera Panama 2011 her first **Mimi** in *La Boheme*, joining Opera Panama again just 6 months later in her debut as **Tosca**, 2012, and continued and continues performing concerts in the newly formed duo of Harp & Heels.

Highlights for Laura Pedersen in the 2009-2010 season were premiers of Figaro's Hangover and Tempo Fuori del Tempo at Weil Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. Laura sang her first **Donna Anna** with the Satori Opera and Laura returned to Indianapolis Opera as **Musetta**. In the 2008-2009 season, Ms. Pedersen sang **Musetta** in *La Boheme* with Opera Cleveland, and Opera Delaware. She sang her first **Antonia** in *Les Contes Hoffmann* with the Indianapolis Opera. She also sang again with the Cleveland Orchestra in concert with MET tenor, Carl Tanner.

In the 2007 season, Ms. Pedersen sang in concert with MET tenor, Marcello Giordani, she also sang **Violetta** in *La Traviata* with the Florida Opera Theater, **Micaela** in *Carmen* with Sacramento Opera and **Hannah Glawari** in the *Merry Widow* at the Di Capo Theater in New York City. Opera Now called Ms. Pedersen "compelling" in her portrayal of **Susannah** at the Di Capo Opera Theater in 2006. Other engagements this season included Verdi's *Messa di Requiem* with the Sioux City Symphony conducted by Xian Zhang and **Juliette** in *Romeo and Juliette* with Cleveland Opera.

Highlights of the 2005 season included a debut with Maestro Erich Kunzel and the Cincinnati Symphony in a Pops Concert. Laura also sang **Rosalinde** in *Die Fledermaus* with Maestro Tim Rolek in Nevada and sang a world premiere of Jeffrey Prater's *Veni Creator Spiritus* in Kaliningrad, Russia. In the 2004 season Ms. Pedersen made her Carnegie Hall debut as the soprano soloist in Schubert's *Mass in G Major*. Other orchestral appearances have included those with the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, The Owensboro Symphony and the Lima Symphony. She debuted at Cleveland's Blossom Festival in 2003, in a program of Foster and Copland songs and excerpts from *La Traviata*. Subsequently, Ms. Pedersen has been re-engaged for the last five summers at the Blossom Festival.

Continuing in the 2003-4 season, Ms. Pedersen was heard as **Donna Elvira** in Mozart's, *Don Giovanni* both in Europe and the Cleveland Opera. Her **Violetta** in *La Traviata* with the Indianapolis Opera drew immediate attention from both public and press; one music critic wrote that "she sang a well burnished **Violetta**, dominating all four acts, singing and acting the very difficult role debut superbly." This success was followed by an immediate re-engagement with the Indianapolis Opera to sing in the company's first production of Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette*. In her debut as **Juliette**, Laura Pedersen gave a "dramatic interpretation blended with passion, humanity, intelligence, and depth" according to the Indianapolis Star.

Laura spent three years as a soloist with the Bremen Opera in Germany. While there, she appeared in such diverse roles as **Maria** in Bernstein's *West Side Story* directed by English choreographer Rosamund Gilmore, and **Norina** in Donizetti's *Don Pasquale*. She also sang the leading role of Marie Laurencin in the world premiere *The Banquet* composed by Maestro Marcello Panni with libretto by Kenneth Koch; this production was staged by award-winning director David Mouchtar-Samorai. Other engagements in Germany have included the role of **Graziella** in the world premiere of Detlev Glanert's *Joseph Suss*, as well as performances of many standards including *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Così fan tutte*, *Carmen*, and *Die Fledermaus*.