

ArtsManagement



Anna Pierard Mezzo Soprano

Born in New Zealand and currently based in the United Kingdom, Anna completed the two-year opera course De Nieuwe Opera Academie in Amsterdam. There she performed several roles to great acclaim, including Hermia in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, under Lukas Vis; Ruggiero in Handel's *Alcina*, under Richard Eggar; Dido in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, and Zita in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, both under Jeremy Carnall.

Anna recently sang the role of Eurilda in a Haydn opera in Vienna: *Le Pescatrici*, at the KammerOper Wien under Daniel Hoyem-Cavazza. In November 2008 she sang Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* at Valencia's Palau de la Musica under the baton of Juan Antonio Ramirez and in April 2009 Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* also directed by Juan Antonio Ramirez at the Palau de la Musica.

In early 2008, Anna toured New Zealand with a recital of Spanish operetta with renowned accompanist David Harper and Tenor, José Aparicio, and later in the year sang Hansel in Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, for NBR NZ Opera and Gertrude, Hansel's mother, for Teatro Castello. Anna also realised the roles of Frau F. Bergmann and Frau Gabor in the World Premiere of *Frühlings Erwachen* by Belgium's premier composer Benoît Mernier with La Monnaie/De Munt, Brussels, under Jonas Alber. She was subsequently invited to perform the revival of *Frühlings Erwachen* for the Opera National du Rhin in Strasbourg in summer 2008, under Daniel Klajner.

Anna has performed throughout the UK, Spain and New Zealand, in concert, opera and oratorio including a Gala performance with the NZSO under Michael Lloyd as a Mobil Song Quest finalist. Concert presentations in UK and NZ include *Les Nuits D'été*, (Berlioz), *Italienisches Liederbuch*, (Wolf) and *Schéhrazade* (Ravel) with German pianist Paul Cibus. In 2006, together with London-based pianist Lada Valesova, Anna presented a concert tour, which included New Zealand, entitled 'Slavic Soul', a presentation of ensemble and solo repertoire by Romantic Russian and Czech composers.

Anna holds a BMus and MMus from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Roles performed there include Venus in *La Didone*, (Cavalli - GSMD), Jenny in *Die Dreigroschenoper*, (Weill – English National Opera 1st framework), and Conception in *L'Heure Espagnol*, (Ravel Scenes– GSMD). Highlights included a Gala performance of scenes from *Die Zauberflöte*, (Mozart – GSMD), conducted by Sir Colin Davis, in which Anna sang Erste Dame.

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