



## Anna Pierard Mezzo Soprano

*Madame Butterfly*, Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra  
"...with Anna Pierard's superbly sung Suzuki..."  
New Zealand Herald William Dart August 2009

New Zealand born Anna Pierard has recently returned to New Zealand after being based in Spain. Anna completed the two-year 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.

Her most recent European performances include Eurilda in Haydn's *Le Pescatrici* for KammerOper Wien under Daniel Hoyem-Cavazza, Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* and Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* at Valencia's Palau de la Musica under Juan Antonio Ramirez and Gertrude in *Hansel und Gretel* for Teatro Castell.

In August 2009 she sang the role of Suzuki in a concert performance of *Madama Butterfly* with Auckland Philharmonia and *Messiah* for Napier Civic Choir in December. 2010 sees Anna perform Beethoven *Symphony no. 9* and the role of one of the Maids in *Elektra* with Auckland Philharmonia and *Messiah* with Christchurch City Choir and Auckland Choral Society. Anna will also give a recital at the Hawkes Bay Opera House, with David Harper at the piano.

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, 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 *Schéhéhrazade* (Ravel) with German pianist Paul Cibis. 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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