



Leanne Kenneally

Soprano

Léila, *The Pearlfishers*, Opera Australia

"The most engaging performance of the evening comes from Leanne Kenneally as the priestess Léila, touchingly human despite her sacrosanct status. With her vibrant, silvery tone, graceful phrasing and energised stage presence, Kenneally's Léila combines sweetness with steely determination, girlish affection with adult dignity."

Sarah Noble, *The Opera Critic*, September 2008

Leanne Kenneally graduated from the Queensland Conservatorium of Music Griffith University with a Bachelor of Music in 1993 and a Graduate Diploma in 1994. In 1995, she was the winner of the vocal category of the ABC Symphony Australia Young Performers Awards.

Leanne made her professional opera debut in 1996 with Opera Queensland as Donna Anna in the company's new production of *Don Giovanni*, and in the same year made her debut with Opera Australia as Pamina in *The Magic Flute* at the Sydney Opera House.

Since this time, Leanne Kenneally has appeared regularly with Australia's leading opera and concert organisations. Her appearances with Opera Australia include the roles of Juliette in *Roméo et Juliette*, Countess in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Giulia in *La scala di seta* and Johanna in *Sweeney Todd* – all new productions – and Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte*, Anne Trulove in *The Rake's Progress*, the title role in *Lakmé* and Countess in *The Marriage of Figaro*, Leila in *Les pêcheurs de perles* and Pamina in *The Magic Flute*, the latter also on tour with OzOpera. She has also sung Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte* and Oscar in *Un ballo in maschera* and Countess in *The Marriage of Figaro* with Opera Queensland, Leila with West Australian Opera, and Mimi in *La bohème* with State Opera of South Australia. As a result of receiving Opera Foundation Australia's prestigious 1999 German Operatic Award, Leanne Kenneally was a member of the Cologne Opera in the 1999/2001 seasons where her roles included Papagena, Novizia in *Suor Angelica*, Zerlina in *Die Banditen*.

On the concert platform, Leanne Kenneally has sung with the Queensland, West Australian and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras, with Orchestra Victoria, the Sydney Philharmonia, the Melbourne Chorale and the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra in a wide range of repertoire that includes Handel's *Messiah*, Haydn's *Creation*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and Britten's *Les Illuminations*. In 2003 she sang Third Norn in concert performances of *Götterdämmerung* for Perth International Festival and Leila in Opera Australia's *Opera in the Domain* in Sydney. She also performs regularly in recital for the Youth Music Foundation of Australia.

Leanne Kenneally has sung Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem* for Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Philomele in Richard Mills' new opera *The Love of the Nightingale* in both its Brisbane and Melbourne seasons; Oscar in *Un ballo in maschera* for State Opera of South Australia and Handel's *Messiah* for the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. Recently, her Australian performances have included Nuria in Golijov's *Ainadamar* for the Adelaide Festival, Mahler's Symphony No.4 with West Australian Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Simone Young and Leila in *The Pearlfishers* for Opera Australia in Sydney. Later this year, she will perform the role of Leila in *The Pearl Fishers* for State Opera of South Australia, and in 'Ode to Liberty' and Handel's *Messiah* with Sydney Philharmonia Choirs.

Leanne can be heard in the role of Venus in Saint Sean's *Helene* which has been released by Melba Recordings.

Leanne Kenneally's Manager in Australasia is Graham Pushee: graham@artsmanagement.com.au
assisted by Sarah Holloway: sarah@artsmanagement.com.au

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