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## Penelope Mills Soprano

*Messiah* – Sydney Philharmonia Choir

“Soprano Penelope Mills, whose clear, full voice was a true delight...this promising talent is budding in an exciting way.”

Sydney Morning Herald *December 2007*

*Idomeneo*, - Pinchgut Opera

“Elettra, sung by Penelope Mills, looked like she had walked in from another world, or perhaps just from another opera. Her cloak and Medusa-meets-Marilyn hair set her apart visually, and her heroic arias set her apart musically as her voice bloomed with dazzling colour and expression.”

*The Sydney Morning Herald* *December 2006*

*Carmina Burana* Sydney Philharmonic Choirs

“Penelope Mills's strong soprano proved unswerving, notably in the final rapturous farewell to a demurely-preserved maidenhead.”

*The Sydney Morning Herald* *November 2005*

Penelope Mills holds a Master of Music in Operatic Performance from the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester UK, a BMusEd (Hons) from the Sydney Conservatorium and has been awarded both an AMusA and LTCL in Vocal Performance. Whilst in the UK, she won the D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust Scholarship and the RNCM's Stuart Grey Scholarship and was a finalist in the prestigious Elizabeth Harwood Prize.

Winner of several lieder and recital prizes, Penelope performs regularly in concert as a song recitalist and has made numerous television and radio appearances. She can be heard on several recordings for ABC Classics. A guest performer with the Sydney, Queensland and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras, she also sings with the Sydney Concert Orchestra, SBS Youth Orchestra and Willoughby Symphony. Penelope's vast range of concert repertoire has led to engagements in Australia and the UK such as Bach *B Minor Mass*, Handel *Messiah*, Rutter *Requiem*, Fauré *Requiem*, Vaughan Williams *Pilgrim's Journey* and *Dona nobis Pacem*, Mozart *Mass in C*, CPE Bach *Magnificat*, Pergolesi *Stabat Mater*, Vivaldi *Gloria*, Beethoven *Symphony No. 9* and *Choral Fantasia*.

With an interest in new music, Penelope has given several Australian and World premiere performances. Recent premieres include Ib Norholm's *Impressions of the Little Mermaid* for the Sydney Festival, works by the Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho with The Seymour Group and *The Earth that Fire Touches* by Australian composer, John Peterson, for the Sydney Philharmonia Choirs at City Recital Hall, Angel Place. This season, she will sing Gordon Kerry's new completion of Mozart *Requiem*.

In 2006 Penelope made her American debut in a recital of operatic arias for Washington Concert Opera in Washington D.C. That same year, she made her debut with the Sydney Symphony in *La Rondine*. Penelope made her Pinchgut Opera debut in 2004, playing the role of Euridice in Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* and returned to play a critically acclaimed Elettra in Mozart's *Idomeneo*. Other roles include Gretel in *Hansel and Gretel* and First Lady in *The Magic Flute*, both for Pacific Opera, Tatyana (*Onegin*, Stowe Opera, UK), and also Zweite Dame (*Die Zauberflöte*), Susanna (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Nedda (*I Pagliacci*), and Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*). Penelope also gave critically praised performances of Fiordiligi in Pacific Opera's *Così fan tutte*, and Vénus in Pinchgut Opera's *Dardanus*.

In addition to several recitals, other recent performances have included Mozart *Requiem* and *Messiah* in the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall with the Sydney Philharmonia Choirs, *Carmina Burana* with the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Society, Vaughan Williams' *Sinfonia Antartica* with the Sydney Symphony, *St. John Passion* for Queensland Orchestra, an Easter concert with Tasmanian Symphony, Poulenc *Gloria*, Handel *Messiah* and Beethoven *Symphony No. 9* in the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall with the Sydney Concert Orchestra and *Carmina Burana* and in the “Immortal Bach” series with the Sydney Philharmonia Choirs.

Upcoming engagements in Australia include Mozart *Requiem*, Mahler *Symphony No. 4*, *Carmina Burana*, performing with the Sydney Chamber Choir, Sydney Philharmonia, Penrith Symphony and the Sydney Mozart Society.

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