



Patricia Wright Soprano

Don Giovanni, NBR New Zealand Opera

"Patricia Wright is an extraordinarily fine Donna Anna, her superb voice and capable acting capturing the high moral tone that colours her role."
Sunday Star Times July 2005

Canteloube, Songs of the Auvergne, Auckland Philharmonia

"...for sheer beauty of line, her performance could not have been bettered, and impish humour was delivered where required. Wright's ability to catch different vocal timbres and moods, marks her as the most versatile soprano working in the country today."
New Zealand Herald February 2005

Patricia Wright, one of New Zealand's most acclaimed singers, trained in New Zealand with Sister Mary Leo and in Australia with Dame Joan Hammond. She was awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council Grant to further her studies and after graduating from the Victoria College of the Arts in Melbourne, received a scholarship to enable her to study in Europe. Soon after her arrival in London, Patricia was awarded second prize in the prestigious Benson & Hedges Gold Award for Singers and she also represented New Zealand in the renowned Cardiff Singer of the World competition.

Critically acclaimed performances in lieder and oratorio led her to every major concert hall in Britain and roles in the United Kingdom and Ireland included Norina, Micaela, Mimi, Pamina, Nanetta, Gilda and Dido. During this period she returned to New Zealand several times and sang Mimi in Canterbury Opera's *La bohème*, Despina for Wellington City Opera's *Così fan tutte*, Micaela in Auckland Opera's *Carmen* and the Mother in *Amahl and the Night Visitors* at the State Opera House.

Since returning to live in New Zealand, Patricia has accepted engagements from the major orchestras, opera companies, festivals and choral societies.

Last year she sang the role of Leonora in *Il Trovatore* with great distinction for Southern Opera and in 2009 will perform Mozart's Coronation Mass and the Hummel Missa Solemnis for Auckland Choral Society and the role of Madame Larina in *Eugene Onegin* for NBR New Zealand Opera.

Patricia's operatic roles include Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*, Countess Almaviva in *The Marriage of Figaro*, Alice Ford in *Falstaff*, Liù in *Turandot*, Nella in *Gianni Schicchi*, Clorinda in *Cenerentola*, Nedda in *I Pagliacci* and *Madame Butterfly* for NBR New Zealand Opera, The Countess in *The Marriage of Figaro* for Canterbury Opera, Magda in a concert performance of *La Rondine* for Academy Opera; First Lady in The Australian Opera's *Magic Flute* and Oscar in *Un Ballo in Maschera* and Micaela in *Carmen* for Wellington City Opera.

A much sought after recitalist and concert performer, concert engagements in 2008 included an outdoor concert at Government House in Wellington, a concert with Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, Britten's *Les Illuminations* with the Auckland Chamber Orchestra and a performance as featured artist in the Australian Festival of Chamber Music, Townsville. Other recent concert engagements include Vaughan William's *A Sea Symphony*, Verdi *Requiem* and Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* for Auckland Choral Society; Strauss' *Four Last Songs*, Golijov's *Three Songs for Soprano and Orchestra*, a Puccini and a Verdi Concert, *Songs of the Auvergne* and *Mozart Requiem* for Auckland Philharmonia, Bach arias with the NZ String Quartet at Nelson Chamber Music Festival and a concert including Golijov Songs and the *Four Last Songs* with Christchurch Symphony.

Previous concert engagements have included *Mahler Symphony No. 2*, *Carmina Burana*, Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* and Beethoven *Symphony No. 9* with New Zealand Symphony Orchestra; *Beethoven Symphony No. 9* for Vector Wellington Orchestra; *St. John's Passion* and *Wedding Cantata* for New Zealand Chamber Orchestra; *Beethoven Symphony No. 9*, *Mahler Symphony No. 4*, a lieder recital with Diedre Irons and a Richard Strauss programme with Auckland Philharmonia; a country-wide lieder recital with Michael Houstoun for Chamber Music New Zealand;

Patricia Wright's Manager Worldwide is Judith Alexander: judith@artsmanagement.com.au
assisted by Sarah Thomas: sarah.thomas@artsmanagement.com.au

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Beethoven *Mass in C Major* and concert aria *Ah Perfido* for Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Society. She has also sung *The Messiah*, *Solemn Vespers*, *Nelson Mass* and Handel's *Solomon* with Auckland Choral Society; Verdi *Requiem* and *Child of Our Time* for Orpheus Choir; the *Verdi Requiem* with Hamilton Civic Choir; *Liverpool Oratorio* with Napier Civic Choir; the *Pergolesi Stabat Mater* and Mozart *Exsultate Jubilate* with the touring Capella Istropolitana Orchestra; and a concert entitled *Early Voices* for Canberra Symphony Orchestra. On the festival circuit she has sung at the Rotorua Chamber Music Festival, the Christchurch Arts Festival and the International Festival of Arts.

Patricia has recorded Verdi *Requiem* with Opera New Zealand and Auckland Philharmonia; *Serenata*, songs by Italian composers, with David Vine, pianist, (Atoll); *Frank Bridge Songs* (Pearl); *Jane Austen Songs* (Pearl); *Rebecca Clarke* (Gamut); *Arnold Bax* (Continuum); *Kenneth Young NZSO* (Trust Atoll) and Hummel's *Missa Solemnis* for Naxos.

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