

Natalie Donnelly, Soprano

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Soprano **Natalie Donnelly** is quickly becoming one of Canada's bright young opera stars. She is in high demand for both solo performances and opera productions throughout Canada. After completing her Bachelor of Music Degree in Voice Performance at the University of Toronto, Natalie appeared as a soloist and guest artist with various Opera companies throughout the greater Toronto area. Within the past few years, Natalie has performed numerous operatic roles including the title roles in *Suor Angelica* and *Madama Butterfly*, Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* and Mimì in *La Bohème*.

Natalie had the honour of singing at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts in a gala commemorating Artistic Director Giuseppe Macina. She also had the opportunity to perform alongside Canadian baritone Russell Braun with the Brampton Lyric Opera Orchestra, and with acclaimed tenor Mario Zhang at the Toronto Centre for the Arts with Orchestra Toronto.

In March 2007, Natalie performed the role of Violetta in *La Traviata* with both Opera York and Toronto Opera Repertoire, singing three shows in four days. She was praised as being "clearly prepared and ready to start a full time career" (*De Standaard*) and for giving "an affecting performance" (*Opera Canada*).

Natalie spent last summer in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where she performed Contessa Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro* with Halifax Summer Opera. "She sang the role with a full, fruity sound, and hit all the right emotional targets" (*The Halifax Herald*).

Natalie traveled to New York City in February 2009 as one of twelve singers invited to participate in the V.O.I.C.Experience young artist program. She had the opportunity to work with distinguished performers and coaches including Joan Dornemann, Maria Zouves, and Sherrill Milnes.

Upon her return to Canada, Natalie performed the lead role of Matilde in the world premiere of the contemporary opera, "I Confess, I Have Lived." Following this performance, Natalie joined the Canadian Operatic Arts Academy, performing scenes from *Der Rosenkavalier* and *La Bohème*. She is thrilled to be returning to the Academy this summer.

Natalie is currently completing her Master's of Music at the University of Western Ontario where she will again be performing the role of Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*. In the years to come, you can expect to see Natalie sharing her passion for Opera and the performing arts with audiences nationwide.