

Laura Pinto Vocalist

American soprano Laura Pinto (formerly Laura Kachurek) has captured the attention of audiences in the U.S. and Canada for her exuberant stage presence, innate musicality, and thoughtful interpretations of vocal music in a wide range of styles.

On the operatic stage, she has performed a variety of roles including Poppea (*Agrippina*, Handel), #1 [Princess] (*Transformations*, Susa), Gretel (*Hänsel und Gretel*), Phyllis (*Iolanthe*, Gilbert & Sullivan), Le Rossignol (*L'enfant et les sortilèges*, Ravel) and Maria (*West Side Story*). She received "special kudos" for her performance of Lauretta in *Gianni Schicchi*, in which her "beautiful arietta 'O mio babbino caro' was literally a showstopper" (*Classical Voice of North Carolina*).

Ms. Pinto also brings a varied palette of vocal and dramatic colors to her performances of chamber music, art song, early music, and oratorio. With Chicago's <u>VOX 3 Collective</u>, she recently performed the coloratura soprano solo in Respighi's *Lauda per la Natività del Signore*. Her concert experience also includes Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* and soprano soli in the Poulenc *Gloria*, Schubert *Mass in G*, Haydn's *The Creation*, and Handel's *Messiah*.

In addition to breathing new life into the standard repertoire, Ms. Pinto frequently performs contemporary music and enjoys collaborating with living composers. In March 2010, she performed alongside composer <u>Christian Kesten</u> in the Canadian premieres of his piece *Zunge lösen* and of Dieter Schnebel's *Kopfschütteln* and *Redeübungen für Hand und Mund* as part of Montreal's Musimars festival. She has also worked closely with emerging composer and former Fulbright Fellow Jason Thorpe Buchanan, whose songs she has performed in Brevard, North Carolina and in Chicago. In March 2011, she performed the world premiere of <u>Nicholas Esterer</u>'s *FIG-NUN-WIG-LINES* for soprano and computer in Montreal.

Ms. Pinto trained as a young artist with the Janiec Opera Company (Brevard Music Center), Sugar Creek Symphony and Song, and the Centro Studi Italiani Opera Festival (Oberlin in Italy). She holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from DePaul University and a Master of Music in Opera from McGill University. Her mentors include Sanford Sylvan, Patrick Hansen, David Gately, Michael McMahon, Harry Silverstein, Elsa Charlston, and Helen Todd. Ms. Pinto currently resides in the Chicago area with her husband.

http://www.laurapintosopranocom.