

Biography of Melissa Manseau, Soprano

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"The cast of "Cavalleria" was highlighted by a knockout performance of the Santuzza role by local Soprano Melissa Manseau, whose marvelous voice and convincing acting carried the day." Jeff Rapsis, Hippopress (Concord, NH)

"Two voices...were true standouts. Melissa Manseau as Santuzza...gave us what is expected of this generally polished company. Both displayed beautiful, controlled powerful vocals you could sail on. Both moved you to tears." Jeanne McCartin, Portsmouth Herald (Portsmouth, NH)

"Singing the role of Don Jose's neglected girlfriend, Michaela, was soprano Melissa Manseau, who turned in another solid vocal performance, coupled with good stage and acting skills -- a pleasure to hear." Paul Joseph Walkowski, OperaOnline.us

"...Manseau revealed a fine core tone."

Anna Crebo, Cape Cod Times

Most recently, Ms. Manseau performed the Witch and the Mother in a NH school tour of *Hansel and Gretel* with Lakes Region Opera, and a concert of operatic selections at the Ivoryton Playhouse with Salt Marsh Opera in CT. In addition, Ms. Manseau performed Santuzza in *Cavalleria Rusticana* with Granite State Opera, Micaela in *Carmen* with Cape Cod Opera, and Berta in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* with Salt Marsh Opera, CT.

Melissa Manseau graduated with her Masters of Music in vocal performance from the University of Northern Iowa. She received her Bachelor of Arts in music education from the University of New Hampshire.

Melissa was an Apprentice Artist with Sarasota Opera in 2001 when she was awarded the Sarasota Opera Guild Scholarship and the Kern Foundation Scholarship. She returned as a Studio Artist for Sarasota's 2002 season, covering Fiordiligi from *Così fan tutte* and Leonore from *Le Trouvère* (Verdi's original French). In addition, Ms Manseau performed with the Sarasota Outreach Program.

Melissa also performed as a Young Artist with Opera North, covering Donna Elvira from *Don Giovanni*, and performing staged scenes from *Le Nozze di Figaro* and Tatyana's "Letter Aria" from *Eugene Onegin*. In November 2005, Ms. Manseau performed the soprano solo in *Brahm's Requiem* with the North Shore Philharmonic under the baton of Maestro Robert Lehmann.

Other professional roles include Witch (*Hansel and Gretel*), Lady Thiang (*The King and I*), Title role (*Suor Angelica*), Mimi (*La Bohème*), and Miss Jessel (*Turn of the Screw*) as well as a returning artist for 12 years in the Chatham, MA. First Night Celebration singing a full recital of operatic arias.