



STRATAGEM  
ARTISTS

ARTIST DRIVEN COLLABORATION

## Shannon Jennings Soprano

Praised by *The Washington Post* for her dramatic intensity and vocal ability, soprano Shannon Jennings' 2018-19 season includes Micaëla in *Carmen* with Annapolis Opera, Iseut in *Le vin herbé* in a co-production with Wolf Trap Opera & Washington Concert Opera, and singing as a Filene Artist at Wolf Trap Opera as Argentine in *Merlin's Island* and Girl in *Der Kaiser von Atlantis*. During the summer of 2019, Ms. Jennings made her debut with the National Symphony Orchestra and Philadelphia Orchestra as the soprano soloist in *ADVENT* by Michael Giacchino. In fall 2019, Ms. Jennings will join Virginia Opera for a concert celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Dominion Energy Center and returns to Annapolis Opera to make her title role debut in *Tosca*.

Ms. Jennings was a 2018 Apprentice Artist with Santa Fe Opera, where she covered soprano Ana María Martínez as Cio-Cio San in *Madama Butterfly*. As a Resident Artist with Pittsburgh Opera (2016-2018), she sang Giannetta in *The Elixir of Love*, Aunt Sarah/Iraqi Woman/Shrink in *The Long Walk*, and Constanza in the rarely seen Handel opera, *Richard the Lionheart*. *Pittsburgh in the Round* hailed Ms. Jennings as "a vision... [singing] treacherously difficult music with what seemed to be the greatest of ease and with a voice of beautiful quality and quantity."

Ms. Jennings is also an alumna of the Merola Opera Program, where *The Bay Area Reporter* wrote that "her darker sound and clear tone have a blooming quality that easily filled the big opera-house acoustic." Other residencies have included Virginia Opera, Central City Opera, Ash Lawn Opera, the Wolf Trap Opera Studio, and the Mittelsächsisches Theater in Freiberg, Germany, where she began her career performing Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte*. Shannon has sung as a soloist with Washington Concert Opera, the Virginia Symphony, the Richmond Symphony, and the Mittelsächsisches Philharmonie. Other recent roles include Marguerite in *Faust* with Annapolis Opera, Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte* with Opera Orlando, Josephine in *HMS Pinafore* with Virginia Opera, Mimì in *La bohème* with DC Public Opera, and Guenevere in *Camelot* with Virginia Opera, for which *AltDaily* praised her as "the perfect blend of beauty and spirit," after she appeared in the role for the detained lead in a nearly sold-out performance.

Ms. Jennings was a finalist in the 2019 George London Foundation competition, a winner of the 2017 Mildred Miller International Voice Competition, a Capitol District Winner in the 2016-17 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, and a winner of the 2015 Annapolis Opera Vocal Competition. Originally from Orlando, FL, Ms. Jennings is a graduate of Florida State University, where she was sought after for collaborations in 20th and 21st century music, due to her instrumental background, musicianship, and ability of perfect pitch.

# Shannon Jennings, Soprano



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## Opera/Musical

Tosca*	<i>Tosca</i>	Annapolis Opera	2019
Argentina*	<i>L'île de Merlin, ou Le monde renversé</i> (Gluck)	Wolf Trap Opera	2019
Bubikopf*	<i>Der Kaiser von Atlantis</i> (Ullmann)	Wolf Trap Opera	2019
Micaëla	<i>Carmen</i>	Annapolis Opera	2019
Iseut	<i>Le vin herbé</i> (Martin)	Wolf Trap Opera / Washington Concert Opera	2019
Cio-Cio San+	<i>Madama Butterfly</i>	Santa Fe Opera	2018
Giannetta	<i>L'elisir d'amore</i>	Pittsburgh Opera	2018
Sarah/Shrink/Iraqi Woman	<i>The Long Walk</i>	Pittsburgh Opera	2018
Countess+	<i>Le nozze di Figaro</i>	Pittsburgh Opera	2017
The Lady Valerie	<i>Cabildo</i> (Beach)	Central City Opera	2017
Liù+	<i>Turandot</i>	Pittsburgh Opera	2017
Costanza	<i>Riccardo Primo</i>	Pittsburgh Opera	2017
Une jeune Babylonienne	<i>Hérodiade</i>	Washington Concert Opera	2016
Anne Sexton	<i>Transformations</i>	Merola Opera	2016
Marguerite	<i>Faust</i>	Annapolis Opera	2016
Fiordiligi	<i>Così fan tutte</i>	Opera Orlando	2015
Josephine	<i>H.M.S. Pinafore</i>	Virginia Opera	2014
Mimi	<i>La bohème</i>	DC Public Opera	2014
Susannah	<i>Susannah</i>	Ash Lawn Opera	2014
Maddalena	<i>Il viaggio a Reims</i>	Wolf Trap Opera	2013
Juliette+	<i>Roméo et Juliette</i>	Lyric Opera Virginia	2013
Guenevere / Nimue	<i>Camelot</i>	Virginia Opera	2013
Lauretta	<i>Gianni Schicchi</i>	Opera Orlando	2012

## Oratorio/Concert

Soprano Soloist*	<i>10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala for DEC</i>	Virginia Opera	2019
Soprano Soloist	<i>ADVENT</i> (Giacchino)	Philadelphia Orchestra	2019
Soprano Soloist	<i>ADVENT</i> (Giacchino- world premiere)	National Symphony Orchestra	2019
Juno	<i>The Tempest</i> (Sibelius)	Virginia Symphony	2016
Soprano Soloist	<i>Beethoven's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony</i>	Richmond Symphony	2015

## Competitions/Awards

Finalist	George London Foundation Competition	2019
Grace Keagy Award	Lotte Lenya Competition	2018
Winner	Mildred Miller International Voice Competition	2017
Winner	Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions (Capital District)	2016
Encouragement Award	Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions (Florida District)	2015
Winner	Annapolis Opera Vocal competition	2015

## Training

Filene Artist	Wolf Trap Opera	2019
Apprentice Artist	Santa Fe Opera	2018
Apprentice Artist	Central City Opera	2017
Resident Artist	Pittsburgh Opera	2016-2018
Young Artist	Merola Opera Program	2016
Emerging Artist	Virginia Opera	2013-2015
Studio Artist	Wolf Trap Opera	2012, 2013

## Education

BM Vocal Performance	Florida State University	2011
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\* Upcoming Performance + Cover Role ^ Partial Role

# Shannon Jennings, Soprano



## Carmen, Annapolis Opera

"Shannon Jennings was the sweet and strong Micaëla. Her delicate and nuanced performance combined with her huge voice to build an alluring character."

Elle Marie Sullivan, *MD Theater Guide* 03/17/19

"Ballentine also had impressive interplay with the lovely soprano, Shannon Jennings, who played Don José's betrothed, Micäela. Jennings' strongest scene came as Micäela begged Don José to leave his life of banditry and return home to his dying mother."

William Powell, *DC Metro Theater Arts* 03/17/19

## Le vin herbé, Washington Concert Opera/Wolf Trap Opera

"Appropriately enough to the spirit of this work, the leads in the production at Wolf Trap appeared to have stepped out of a pre-Raphaelite painting: soprano Shannon Jennings with a serpentine head of auburn hair, and blonde tenor Ian Koziara the incarnation of a Nordic knight. More important, they both brought to their roles tremendous dramatic intensity – Jennings was able to register her reaction to Tristan's death while standing motionless, only through the expression of her face – and vocal ability."

Anne Midgette, *The Washington Post* 02/11/19

## L'elisir d'amore, Pittsburgh Opera

"Shannon Jennings' sharp-toned, attractive Giannetta was another asset to the ensemble."

Robert Croan, *Opera News* 04/21/18

"Shannon Jennings, as Adina's friend Giannetta, proved the old saying about 'there are no small parts' in grand fashion. Her flair for comedy is excellent, and she sang the too short passages given to the role with a voice of much beauty. Her second act scene with the partied out chorus women was one of the most engaging features in an evening that was packed with them."

George B. Parous, *Pittsburgh in the Round* 04/22/18

"Shannon Jennings made hay of her supporting role Giannetta, bringing an unexpected charm to the character."

Jeremy Reynolds, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* 04/22/18

## The Long Walk, Pittsburgh Opera

"Other vocal highlights included resident artist Shannon Jennings as Mr. Castner's psychologist, singing of blast-induced neurotrauma with an effortless, natural authority and granting the opera a rare moment of catharsis."

Jeremy Reynolds, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* 01/21/18

## Cabildo, Central City Opera

"Soprano Shannon Jennings appears at the climax as the dead Lady Valerie and her love duet with [Dean] Murphy is the musical and dramatic highlight."

Kelly Dean Hansen, *Daily Camera* 07/27/17