

DONATA CUCINOTTA | SOPRANO

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American soprano Donata Cucinotta has been recognized for her versatile and powerful performances on opera, musical, and concert stages. Recent career highlights include performances with Michael Tilson Thomas and the **Louisville Orchestra**, a Lincoln Center debut with the **Queens Symphony Orchestra**, and multiple performances with Jack Everly and the **Indianapolis Pops** where Tom Alvarez of the *Indy Star* noted her "jaw-dropping solo during 'O Holy Night.' [Her] performance was one of the most breathtaking I have seen on any stage anywhere, anytime."

Last season she returned to the **Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra** as a Featured Soloist in their *From Vienna to Broadway* concert and *Yuletide Celebration*. Donata also appeared last season as Candice in the world premiere of *Stay*, by John Glover and Kelley Rourke with **On Site Opera**. This season she looks forward to Countess Almaviva in *Le Nozze Di Figaro* with **Opera Ithaca**, Josephine in *HMS Pinafore* with **Knoxville Opera**, returning to **Indianapolis Opera** as Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* and joining the **Jackson Symphony Orchestra** for *Mahler's 3rd Symphony*.

Ms. Cucinotta's additional appearances include Musetta in *La Bohème* with **Indianapolis Opera**, Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* with **Opera Ithaca**, Countess in *Figaro! 90210* with **Morningside Opera**, Josephine in *HMS Pinafore* at **Knoxville Opera**, Erste Dame in *Die Zauberflöte* at **Opera Tampa**, *Die Fledermaus* with **Amarillo** and **Knoxville Opera**, Nina in *The Firefly* with **Ohio Light Opera**, and Nedda in *Pagliacci* with **Opera in the Heights**, where D.L Groover of the Houston Press noted "Cucinotta's fiery soprano [that] opened up with a blistering top, square on, raising goose bumps in the best possible way."

She recently made two company debuts - **Asheville Lyric Opera** debut as Aldonza in *Man of La Mancha* and **Indianapolis Opera** in Johnathan Dove's *Mansfield Park*. Her recent engagements include concerts with **Baltimore Concert Opera** and **First Coast Opera**, the title role in *Evangeline* with the **Longfellow Chorus**, recorded her first Mimì in *La bohème* with **Reclamation Opera**, and jumped in for Rachel Peters's *Wild Beasts* with **Center for Contemporary Opera** where Richard Sasanow of *Broadway World* noted: "The Cast was smashing on all counts, so completely in tune with Peters' music that it was sometimes startling that they could be so far inside each other's heads. Donata Cucinotta was the center of it all as The Girl, with its rangy music. She captured all that was puerile and needy, and at the same time cruel and unthinking, in the dysfunctional worlds The Girl lives in and Imagines."

A frequent concert and recitalist, she has sung several concerts with the **Terre Haute Symphony Orchestra**, and the **Columbus Indiana Philharmonic** as a Featured Soloist, where Henry Upper of *The Republic* praised her "...inner feeling for the text, where time and again she showed her heart and her soul through the words....She is a superb talent whom we know we will hear from more." She has also been heard in the Mozart *Mass in C*, Bach's *Magnificat* and the Dvorak *Requiem* with the **Denver Choral Fest**. With the **Indianapolis Symphonic Choir** she has sung the soprano solo in Vaughn Williams *Dona Nobis Pacem*. She has also sung the soprano solos Bach's in *Die Elenden Sollen Essen*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Dave Brubeck's *To Hope* and Handel's *Messiah*. As a recitalist, she will be touring her #Metoo program in conjunction with **Sing For Hope** and has performed as a guest artist with **On Site Opera**.

After graduating from Mannes College of Music, Ms Cucinotta joined **Shreveport Opera** as a Young Artist where she understudied the roles of Violetta in *La Traviata*, and Susanna *Le nozze di Figaro* on the main stage. As a member of **Opera Colorado's** ensemble, she appeared as Berta in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, understudied the Four Heroines in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, and sang the roles of Masha in *The Music Shop* and Juliette in *Roméo et Juliette*. She was then invited to make her **Opera Fort Collins** debut as Gilda in *Rigoletto*. As a resident artist at **Opera New Jersey**, she understudied Hanna in *The Merry Widow*.

Ms. Cucinotta is a **Metropolitan Opera National Council** Regional Finalist, a Finalist for the **American Prize** in Art song, semi-finalist in the **Art Song Preservation Society of New York** Competition, semi-finalist in the American Prize art song competition, semi-finalist in the **San Antonio Opera** Competition, Audience Choice Award and Honorable Mention at the **Shreveport Opera Singer of the Year Competition**, and a finalist at the **Classical Singer Competition**.

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