

Born in Poland, soprano **Justyna Giermola** brings a traditional European flavor to opera with a layered, luxuriant voice, and striking beauty. The critics called her a soprano with a "rich, velvety timbre" and her performances described as "sparkling and pristine".

Coming up, the versatile soprano has several debuts of both new works and new roles. She will add the role of **Rosalinda** in Strauss's classic *Die Fledermaus*, the title role in **Halka** by Moniuszko, the title role in **Carmen** in Bizet's beloved classic and **Sara** in a new opera *Bloodlines* composed by Shuying Li with a libretto by Lila Palmer. She will also make her Zankel Hall debut at Carnegie Hall singing a concert of works by the Polish composer Stanislaw Moniuszko. Most recently, the soprano had the honor to debut three songs by Patricia Giannattasio in a concert dedicated to women composers and made her company debuts with Hudson Lyric Opera and NYC Productions singing **Santuzza** in *Cavalleria Rusticana* and **First Witch** in *Dido and Aeneas*, respectively.

The 2018-2019 season brought the soprano to The Cleveland Opera with a role debut in the U.S. premier of the Stanislaw Moniuszko opera The Haunted Manor (Straszny Dwor) as the "lovely and understated" Jadwiga. She started the season singing the solo in Poulenc's Gloria with the Rockland Choral Society and had the opportunity to sing the solo again later in the season with Masterwork Chorus. Other upcoming performances include reprising the roles of Nedda in I Pagliacci and the title role in Manon Lescaut. Highlights of 2017-2018 included the world premiere of the new musical drama In Search of Desdemona in the role of Santa di Carlo / Desdemona at Lincoln Center. She added the title role in Manon Lescaut and had the opportunity to perform **Mimi** in *La Boheme*. Ms. Giermola has sung the roles of Auretta in Mozart's L'oca del Cairo for Garden State Opera and Violetta in La Traviata at the Teatro Giuseppe Verdi (Pollenza, Italy). Later that season she added the role of **Musetta** in La Boheme when she made her company debut with New Jersey Verismo Opera and reprised the role with Eastern Opera Company that same year. A regular at Eastern Opera Company she has sung the roles of Micaela in Carmen, Nedda in Pagliacci, Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni, Santuzza in Cavalleria Rusticana and the title roles in Tosca and Suor Angelica with the company. Other roles include Mother in Hansel and Gretel Aldonza in Man of La Mancha and Mimi in La Boheme.

Equally active on the concert stage her performances have led her to venues such as Carnegie Hall's Weill Hall and Zankel Hall, St. Patrick's Cathedral and Lincoln Center in NYC and internationally to Spain, Italy, Germany and Poland. Ms. Giermola recently made her company debut with the St. Peter of the Sea Orchestra in an all Puccini concert in collaboration with the New Jersey State Opera. After a successful world premier of Robert Butts' **Symphony #1**, where she was the soprano soloist, Ms. Giermola was very excited to be asked back to sing with The Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey in their *Czech Mates* concert where she debuted an original orchestration of Dvorak's "Song to the Moon" from the opera **Rusalka**. Ms. Giermola has performed as the soprano soloist in Mozart's **Requiem, Coronation Mass** and **Missa Brevis**, Haydn's **Lord Nelson Mass** Faure's **Requiem**, Brahm's **Requiem**, Orff's **Carmina Burana** and Handel's **Messiah**. She was also the featured soloist with the Glens Falls Symphony in Mahler's **Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen**.

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### **Opera / Operetta**

Sara\* Bloodlines (New Composition) New York Dance & Arts Innovations

**Rosalinda\*** Die Fledermaus Bravo Alliance

Halka\* Dom Kultury w Lapach (Poland)

Carmen\* Carmen New Jersey State Opera

First Witch Dido and Aeneas NYC Productions
Santuzza Cavalleria Rusticana Hudson Lyric Opera

Nedda I Pagliacci Eastern Opera Company

JadwigaThe Haunted ManorThe Cleveland OperaManon LescautManon LescautEastern Opera Company

Mimi La Boheme Eastern Opera Company

Santa/Desdemona In Search of Desdemona (World Premier) Inter-Cities Performing Arts Inc

Manon Lescaut RB Opera Theatre

SantuzzaCavalleria RusticanaEastern Opera CompanySuor AngelicaSuor AngelicaEastern Opera Company

Suor AngelicaSuor AngelicaEastern Opera CompanyToscaEastern Opera CompanyMimiLa BohemeOpera 691

Donna ElviraDon GiovanniEastern Opera CompanyMusettaLa BohemeNew Jersey Verismo OperaNeddaI PagliacciEastern Opera CompanyMicaelaCarmenEastern Opera Company

Mother Amahl and the Night Visitors Bravo Alliance

Violetta La Traviata Teatro Guiseppe Verdi (Pollenza)

Gertrude/Mother Hansel and Gretel Opera 691

Auretta L'oca del Cairo Garden State Opera

Suora Infermiera Suor Angelica Opera 691

Aldonza Man of La Mancha Princeton Festival



### **Concert / Oratorio / Recital**

Soloist	Moniuszko Internationally	Zankel Hall, Carnegie Hall
Soloist	Treble Girls (World Premiere)	Anna Maria Ciccone Theatre BCC
Soloist	Sunday Concert	Regina Opera Company
Recital	Musica a Milano	Presbyterian Church of Westfield
Soloist	Poulenc Gloria	Rockland Choral Society
Soloist	Poulenc Gloria	The Masterwork Chorus
Soloist	Tour for Peace (Poland)	Inter-cities Performing Arts Inc.
Soloist	Faure Requiem	The Masterwork Chorus
Soloist	Carmina Burana	The Masterwork Chorus
Soloist	Czech Mates	Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey
Soloist	Mozart Requiem	The Masterwork Chorus
Soloist	Brahms Requiem	The Masterwork Chorus
Soloist	Symphony #1 (World Premiere)	Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey
Soloist	Mozart's Journey	Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey
Soloist	Mahler Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen	Glens Falls Symphony

### **Education / Awards**

New Jersey City University – M.M.

Aspen Opera Theatre Center – Aspen Music Festival and School

Seton Hall University - B.A.

Finalist - Mario Lanza Competition, NY

Finalist - Montserrat Caballe International Vocal Competition - Zaragoza, Spain

Finalist – Opera at Florham Violetta Dupont Vocal Competition

Winner - Marcella Sembrich Vocal Competition - American Council for Polish Culture



#### **Reviews**

Justyna Giermola held the listeners rapt attention with her aria from the opera *Halka*...the audience demanded an encore...

Katarzyna Buczkowska Kurier

"....Soprano Justyna Giermola gave Hanna's sister Jadwiga a lovely, understated air."

### **David Kulma**

Clevelandclassical com

In this production from Eastern Opera of New Jersey, the title role is played Karole Lewis, whose magnificent voice and acting skills give us the perfect Floria Tosca! Yet, her alternate night alter ego, Justyna Giermola, brings an alternate freshness to the role making it impossible to name a winner. Both handle the stunning second act aria *Vissi d'arte*, in a manner worthy of the price of admission all by itself.

MYcentralJersey.com author: Arthur Ritchie

http://www.mycentraljersey.com/story/entertainment/2015/11/05/tosca-brook-theatre-set-nov-7-814-and-15/75074796/

### Pagliacci

"Justyna Giermola made a youthful and sprightly Nedda"

**New Jersey Monthly Gregory Moomjy** 

Highlights of Pagliacci were Justyna Giermola's curious, youthful, and conflicted Nedda sung with beauty and power. We feel her restlessness and are able to sympathize with her desire to have a different life in spite of her casual cruelty to Tonio and her infidelity to Canio.

**Basso Buff by Christine Chase** 



