

metropolis ensemble



HEATHER JONES / MEZZO SOPRANO

Heather Jones is an American mezzo who blends seamless technique with “mischievous freshness and enthusiasm” to deliver compelling performances in both classical and contemporary lyric mezzo repertoire. She has become a standout for her “easy sound and skillful delivery,” especially in the operas of Mozart, the French Grand Opera repertoire, and in 20th century opera, operetta, and musical theatre. This Spring, Heather will collaborate with the Brooklyn based concert series “The Past is Female, Too,” which promotes the historically underrepresented works of female composers, as well as those from the LGBTQ+ community, and composers of color.

Heather's command of the American music idiom has been seen in contemporary opera, song cycle, and experimental performance art. She recently joined Opera Fayetteville for their “Opera in Bloom” festival featuring one-act operas written by living composers; she appeared with the Albany Symphony in their American Music Festival, where she sang Evan Mack's feminist song cycle “Preach Sister, Preach;” and she collaborated with Sign & Sing ASL in New York City to debut Brad Balliet's “The Universal Drum, written

for two singers, two Deaf actors, and 27-piece percussion. Heather also sang the role of Sister Dorothy Stang in Evan Mack's *Angel of the Amazon*, which made its west coast debut in Portland, OR, and at home in NYC, she collaborated with American Lyric Theatre for their Composer & Librettist Development program, facilitated by Mark Adamo. Heather also appeared in a historic production and professional recording of Mark Blitzstein's *The Cradle Will Rock* with Opera Saratoga under the baton of John Mauceri, which featured the composer's intended, full orchestration for the first time since its premiere in the 1960s. Heather sang the role of Sister Mister, and is featured on the cast recording, available on Spotify courtesy of Bridge Records.

Heather has also made regional debuts singing some of the most beloved standard repertoire, including *The Magic Flute* with Opera Louisiane (Second Lady), *Le nozze di Figaro* with dell'Arte Ensemble in NYC (Cherubino), J. Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* (Orlofsky) and Humperdinck's *Hansel und Gretel* (Hansel) with Sinfonietta Nova in Princeton, NJ and internationally in Beirut, Lebanon singing Dvorak's Mass in D at the American University of Beirut. Other favorite productions include: *Idomeneo* (Idamante), *Faust* (Siebel), *Madama Butterfly* (Suzuki), scenes from *Les Troyens* (Didon) and *Werther* (Charlotte), and Light Opera of New York's production of Offenbach's *The Island of Tulipatan* (Theodorine), which is available on Spotify, courtesy of Albany Records.

Heather has worked as a Young Artist with Opera Saratoga, Seagle Music Colony, Opera Company of Middlebury, The CoOPERative Program, dell'Arte Opera Ensemble, and Bel Canto at Caramoor. She holds a BM in music education from Westminster Choir College and a MM in voice performance from Mannes School of Music where she studied with Joseph Colaneri, Bill Burden, and Thomas Bagwell, and appeared in productions of *Così fan tutte* (Dorabella) and *Dido and Aeneas* (Dido).

Originally from Charleston, South Carolina, Heather is currently based in Brooklyn, NY. When she's not onstage, you can find her riding her bike to the beach, scouring thrift stores for vintage furniture, reading celebrity memoirs, and listening to New Orleans style big band jazz.