

Jessica Rivera, soprano

Possessing a voice praised by the *San Francisco Chronicle* for its “effortless precision and tonal luster,” soprano Jessica Rivera is established as one of the most creatively inspired vocal artists before the public today. The intelligence, dimension, and spirituality with which she infuses her performances on the great international concert and opera stages has garnered Ms. Rivera unique artistic collaborations with many of today’s most celebrated composers, including John Adams, Gabriela Lena Frank, Osvaldo Golijov, Jonathan Leshnoff, and Nico Muhly, and has brought her together in collaboration with such esteemed conductors as Bernard Haitink, Sir Simon Rattle, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Robert Spano, and Michael Tilson Thomas.

Ms. Rivera’s 2015-2016 season features performances of Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9 with Giancarlo Guerrero and the Nashville Symphony, excerpts from Canteloube’s *Chants d’Auvergne* with Josep Caballé-Domenech and the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, a pops concert with Richard Kaufman and the Pacific Symphony, Strauss’ *Four Last Songs* with Richard Sowers and the Anderson Symphony Orchestra, Joshua Roman’s song cycle “we do it to one another” with Town Hall Seattle, Strauss’ *Orchesterlieder* with Johannes Stert and the Orquestra Sinfónica Portuguesa in Lisbon, Villa-Lobos’ “Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5” with Marcelo Lehninger and the Grand Rapids Symphony, and Brahms’ *Ein deutsches Requiem* with Alexander Shelley and the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, and with Robert Spano and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra with performances in Atlanta and at New York’s Carnegie Hall. She will also join the Teatro Nacional de São Carlos in Lisbon as Kumudha in John Adams’ *A Flowering Tree*, a role she created, under the baton of Joana Carneiro.

Highlights of Ms. Rivera’s 2014-2015 season included performances of Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9 with Peter Oundjian and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Brahms’s *Ein deutsches Requiem* with Robert Spano and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Falla’s *Siete Canciones Populares* with Nicholas Carter and the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, a concert celebration of “Día de los Muertos” with Donato Cabrera and the San Francisco Symphony, Mahler’s Symphony No. 2 with Laura Jackson and the Reno Philharmonic, Theofanidis’s *Creation Oratorio* with Robert Spano and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Handel’s *Messiah* with Norman Mackenzie and

the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, a New Year's Eve concert with David Robertson and the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, the world premiere of Gabriela Lena Frank's *La Centinela y la Paloma* with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and Mozart's Mass in C Minor with Marcelo Lehninger and the New West Symphony. She also reprised her critically-acclaimed portrayal of Kitty Oppenheimer in John Adams's *Doctor Atomic* for a debut at the Teatro de la Maestranza in Seville, Spain.

Ms. Rivera was heralded in the world premiere of John Adams' opera, *A Flowering Tree*, singing the role of Kumudha, in a production directed by Peter Sellars as part of the New Crowned Hope Festival in Vienna. Since then, she has performed *A Flowering Tree* for her debut with the Berliner Philharmoniker with Sir Simon Rattle and, under the composer's baton, with the Cincinnati Opera, San Francisco Symphony, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Orchestra of St. Luke's at Lincoln Center, and the London Symphony Orchestra at the Barbican Centre. The London performances were recorded and are commercially available on the Nonesuch Records label.

The artist made her European operatic debut as Kitty Oppenheimer in Peter Sellars's acclaimed production of John Adams's *Doctor Atomic* with the Netherlands Opera, a role that also served for her debuts at the Lyric Opera of Chicago and Finnish National Opera, and she joined the roster of the Metropolitan Opera for its new production of *Doctor Atomic* under the direction of Alan Gilbert. She gave concert performances of *Doctor Atomic* with Robert Spano and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, and her portrayal of Kitty Oppenheimer was captured in Amsterdam and is commercially available on DVD on the BBC/Opus Arte label.

Highlights of recent seasons include performances of *El Niño* with David Robertson and the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony and at the Edinburgh International Festival with James Conlon and the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, *Nixon Tapes* with the Pittsburgh Symphony under the direction of John Adams, Górecki's Symphony No. 3 ("Symphony of Sorrowful Songs") with Gustavo Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Mahler's Fourth Symphony with Franz Welser-Möst for a debut with the Cleveland Orchestra, Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with Sir Roger Norrington and the Orchestra of St. Luke's at Carnegie Hall, with Bernard Haitink and the

Chicago Symphony Orchestra and with Michael Tilson Thomas and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Britten's Spring Symphony with Robert Spano and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, *Carmen* with Bramwell Tovey and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Poulenc's *Gloria* with Mr. Haitink and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, which she also sang with Grant Gershon at the Hollywood Bowl, and Ravel's *Shéhérazade* with Mr. Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony.

Ms. Rivera made her critically acclaimed Santa Fe Opera debut in the summer of 2005 as Nuria in the world premiere of the revised edition of Osvaldo Golijov's *Ainadamar*. She reprised the role for the 2007 Grammy Award-winning Deutsche Grammophon recording of the work with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra under Robert Spano, and bowed in the Peter Sellars staging at Lincoln Center, Opera Boston, as well as in performances at the Barbican Centre, the Adelaide Festival of Arts, Cincinnati Opera, and the Ojai, Ravinia, and New Zealand International Arts Festivals. The artist's first performances of Margarita Xirgu in *Ainadamar*, a role created by Dawn Upshaw, occurred in the summer of 2007 at the Colorado Music Festival under the baton of Michael Christie and she reprised the part recently for Madrid's Teatro Real.

Committed to the art of recital, Ms. Rivera has performed in concert halls in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Santa Fe. In a national recital tour, Ms. Rivera was joined by mezzo-soprano Kelley O'Connor and pianist Robert Spano for concerts at Carnegie Hall, Cal Performances, Berkeley, Kennesaw State University, Pepperdine University, and at Cincinnati's Constella Festival. In past seasons, to support a recital disc on the Urtext Records label that examines works for soprano, clarinet, and piano, Ms. Rivera toured North America with concerts in Los Angeles, New York (Carnegie Hall), Las Vegas, Oklahoma City, and Chicago (Ravinia Festival). She also has given a recital program at the Amelia Island Festival accompanied at the piano by Robert Spano. She was deeply honored to have received a commission from Carnegie Hall for the world premiere of a song cycle by Nico Muhly called *The Adulteress* given on the occasion of her Weill Hall recital performance.

For additional information about Ms. Rivera, please visit www.jessicarivera.com