

For Immediate Release

April 24, 2009



Jona Rapoport to Represent Soprano Othalie Graham in Israel

Jona Rapoport, of Jona Rapoport Artist Management, is thrilled to announce representation of Canadian soprano **Othalie Graham** in Israel. Jona is also the manager and publicist of acclaimed American composer **Lori Laitman**, and the producer and host of *Art & Fine Living with Jona* on CJRS radio in Montreal.

*“Rearrange schedules, change plans, and run to see this vocally and visually stunning new production featuring a young dramatic soprano (Othalie Graham) who is destined for international stardom. As **Turandot**, Othalie Graham electrified the audience with enormous vocal power, tonal depth, and dramatic savvy.”*

So began the review in the Salt Lake Tribune of Othalie Graham’s performance in the title role of **Turandot** with the Utah Festival Opera in 2005. Since her auspicious debut in the role with Opera Delaware in 2004, in which she was hailed for her *“imperious presence and powerful voice,”* Ms. Graham has become one of the leading young interpreters of the role, performing it not only with Utah Festival Opera in 2005, but also with Boheme Opera and Sacramento Opera in 2006.

In the 2005-2006 season, Ms. Graham made her critically acclaimed debuts as **Aida** in Boheme Opera’s production of Aida and as **Tosca** in Festival Opera’s production of Tosca. In Aida, The Times declared that Ms. Graham was *“a Canadian import with a gorgeous high range”* and her performance as **Tosca** inspired the San Francisco Chronicle to praise her for her *“potent and secure soprano that soared effortlessly through the role.”* A graduate of the prestigious Academy of Vocal Arts, Ms. Graham sang the title role in their production of **Elektra** and the role of **Donna Anna** in their production of Don Giovanni.

The 2006-2007 season saw her return to the role of **Turandot** when she made her debut

with Michigan Opera Theatre. Other debuts of the season included the role of **Odabella** in Attila with Sarasota Opera, the role of **Leonora** in Il Trovatore with Utah Festival Opera, and as the soprano soloist in **Elijah** with Bryn Terfel and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

The 2008-2009 season began with Ms. Graham's starring role of **Aida** with El Paso Opera. This role has garnered much attention after a reviewer was astonished at **Ms. Graham's use of the infamous Maria Callas E flat in the Triumphal scene**. She reprised the role for the Aspandos Festival in Turkey during the summer. Her orchestral appearances brought Ms. Graham back to her own country for a concert with Pacific Opera Victoria, and in 2009 she will sing a concert version of **Tosca** with The Harrisburg Symphony. In 2008 Ms. Graham performed her signature role of **Turandot** for the Connecticut Grand Opera and will reprise the role in 2009 with Opera Columbus, Chorus Pro Musica in Boston, and Festival Opera in San Francisco.

Ms. Graham has begun her foray into the **Wagnerian repertoire** and was recently awarded both a grant from the New York Wagner Society and top prize in the Liederkrantz Society's Wagner Division competition. She has been added to the prestigious roster of the **"Emerging Singers Program"** sponsored by the Wagner Society of Washington D.C. who will sponsor her in learning and performing the works of Richard Wagner under the personal tutelage of Evelyn Lear.

A gifted recitalist, Ms. Graham made her New York City recital debut with the **Liederkrantz Society**, after winning its eminent annual competition in 2003. In 2005, she was named the first place winner of the Sullivan Foundation Grant and the Joyce Dutka Competition. She was also the New Jersey district winner of the Metropolitan Opera's National Council auditions in 2003 and a finalist in Palm Beach Opera's competition in the same year. Awards and honors in her native Canada have included grants from the Canada Council for the Arts and the coveted Jean Chalmers prize in the Canadian Music Competition. Ms. Graham began her studies with Canadian Soprano Lois McDonall and is currently a student of Bill Schuman.

Othalie's media kit is ready upon request.

Source:

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