

WILLSONIA BOYER, soprano, performs both as an opera singer and as a concert artist.

Presented by the Hans and Rosy Epstein Memorial Committee, Ms. Boyer made her New York recital debut at Merkin Concert Hall to critical acclaim. Operatic appearances include engagements with New York City Opera, Bregenz Festspiele, Virginia Opera, The Bronx Opera, and New Jersey Concert Opera and performance venues include Europe and South America, as well as the United States.

Operatic roles include the title role of *Aida*, Serena in Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, Helen in Schubert's *The Conspirators*, the Countess and Sandrina in Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* and *La Finta Giardiniera*, respectively. In addition, Ms. Boyer has appeared with the New Jersey Concert Opera in the title role of *Tosca* and as Helmwige in *Die Walküre* in 2006, in New York City Opera's premier of *Margaret Garner* in 2007 and in Sherry Boone's and Sean Jeremy Palmer's *Ellen Craft* in 2009.

Concert engagements include the inaugural concert of the Harrison Opera House in Norfolk, Virginia, a series of all-Mozart recitals given under the auspices of the Friends of Mozart Society, opera excerpts with the Petersburg (VA) Symphony Orchestra and guest appearances with the Ars Musica Chorale of New Jersey and with the Hodie Ensemble of New York.

An active recitalist, Ms. Boyer has appeared in concert throughout the eastern United States. B. Art Presenter presented Ms. Boyer in a celebratory tribute to Dorothy Maynor at Merkin Concert Hall in 2010 and will again present Ms. Boyer at Merkin Concert Hall in an all-women composer concert on March 25, 2012.

Ms. Boyer, a native Virginian, holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Hollins University, a Master's degree from Virginia State University, where she studied with Dr. Richard Edwards. She also studied in France at the Conservatoire de Neuilly, specializing in contemporary music under the tutelage of Francois Bernard Mâche, a pupil of Olivier Messiaen.

Ms. Boyer is currently regular soloist for Seventh Church of Christ, Scientist in New York City and currently studies with retired Metropolitan Opera baritone, John Fiorito.