

Kiri Deonarine

has emerged in the last two years, through a series of critically-acclaimed performances, as one of opera's most exciting young performers. For the Lyric Opera of Chicago, from whose Ryan Opera Center she graduated in 2013, she has sung Gilda (*Rigoletto*) and Sophie (*Werther*). In the summer of 2013, she made her debut with the Santa Fe Opera Festival as Fiakermilli (*Arabella*), a performance described by critics as "*gloriously executed*" and sung with "*high-flying brilliance*." In Spring 2012, in a review of her performance at the Lyric Opera of Chicago's *Night of Rising Stars* concert, Wynne Delacoma of the Chicago Sun-Times wrote that "*Deonarine was simply dazzling in the ferociously complex virtuosity of the Bell Song...bringing a lyrical seamlessness to both the aria's ornaments and its slow, exotic melody line.*"

In February 2014, Ms Deonarine made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera New York as Polovtsian Maiden (*Prince Igor*), described by Opera Magazine as '*one of the finest vocal moments in this performance*'. In April 2014, she made her debut with Michigan Opera Theater as Catherine (*A View from the Bridge*).

In 2013, Kiri Deonarine completed her studies at the Ryan Opera Center of the Lyric Opera of Chicago, where her roles have included: Echo (*Ariadne auf Naxos*); Pamina (*The Magic Flute*); and 1st Siren (*Rinaldo*); and where, in season 2012/13, she appeared as Gilda (*Rigoletto*), Sophie (*Werther*) and the Dew Fairy (*Hansel and Gretel*). She was previously a member of the Houston Grand Opera Studio, for whom she sang Adina (*L'Elisir d'amore*), First Niece (*Peter Grimes*), Sister Catherine (*Dead Man Walking*), Despina (*Così fan Tutte*), Barbarina (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), and Naiad (*Ariadne auf Naxos*).

Kiri Deonarine was a Grand Finalist in the 2009 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, won First Prize in the 2010 Dallas Opera Guild Competition, was an award-winner in the George London Vocal Competition and, in 2013, won First Prize in the Licia Albanese-Puccini Foundation Competition.

Ms. Deonarine has earned a bachelor's degree in music education at Baylor University, studied at Dresden's Institute of Advanced Studies, and pursued a master's degree in vocal performance at Indiana University. She is a former participant in the Apprentice Singer program of The Santa Fe Opera (2009, 2010).

Future engagements include: a return to the Metropolitan Opera as Frasquita (*Carmen*) and Valencienne (*The Merry Widow*).



Prince Igor/Metropolitan Opera

'Yet a fourth debut was the most promising of the night: Kiri Deonarine gave a sensuous, wafting rendition of the maiden's song at the top of the first act.'

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