

JENI HOUSER

Soprano

Opera News lauds Jeni Houser's performances as "commanding and duplicitous, yet also vulnerable. She has a bright future above the staff." In the 2025-26 season, she makes her debut with the Utah Symphony singing Orff's **Carmina Burana** and sings her first performances of **Mahler's Symphony No. 2** in a return to the Madison Symphony Orchestra. She also returns to the Metropolitan Opera for its production of **Arabella**. Coming seasons see another return to the Metropolitan Opera as she reprises the Queen of the Night in the company's beloved English-language production of **The Magic Flute**. Last season she sang Mabel in **Pirates of the Penzance** with Charlottesville Opera and returned to the Metropolitan Opera for its production of **Die Zauberflöte**.



She recently made debuts with the Metropolitan Opera, Los Angeles Opera, and Dallas Opera as Königin der Nacht in **Die Zauberflöte**, a role she has also sung to great acclaim with Minnesota Opera, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, Cincinnati Opera, Grand Teton Music Festival, Central City Opera, and Kentucky Opera. She recently made her role debut as **Lucia di Lammermoor** in a return to Madison Opera and repeated the role at the Seoul Arts Center. She returned to the Dallas Opera stage as the title role in **The Golden Cockerel**. With the Wiener Staatsoper, she made her international debut as Frantzi in the world premiere of Staud's **Die Weiden**, after which she joined the company for its productions of **Die Zauberflöte** and Trojahn's **Orest**.

Ms. Houser has sung Zerbinetta in **Ariadne auf Naxos** with Austin Opera and Minnesota Opera; at the latter, she also sang Susanna in **Le nozze di Figaro**, the Charmeuse in **Thais**, and Mrs. Grady in the world premiere of Paul Moravec's **The Shining**. With Madison Opera, she has previously sung Cunegonde in **Candide**, Olympia in **Les contes d'Hoffmann**, Johanna in **Sweeney Todd**, Anne Egerman in **A Little Night Music**, and Amy in Adamo's **Little Women**. She has sung further performances of Johanna in **Sweeney Todd** with Mill City Summer Opera and Baltimore Concert Opera. She joined On Site Opera as Susanna in Marcos Portugal's **Le nozze di Figaro**, Odyssey Opera in Boston as Cecily in Castelnuovo-Tedesco's **The Importance of Being Earnest**, Opera Saratoga as Josephine in **H.M.S. Pinafore**, and Fort Worth Opera as Viv in the premiere of Peters' **Companionship**.

On the concert stage, she has previously sung Orff's **Carmina Burana** with Madison Symphony, Phoenix Symphony, Las Vegas Philharmonic, Florida Orchestra and Atlanta Ballet and Brahms'

Ein deutsches Requiem, Haydn's **Creation**, and Mozart's **Requiem** with Abendmusik: Lincoln (Nebraska).

The soprano is an alumnus of the young artist programs of the Glimmerglass Festival, Virginia Opera, and Opera Saratoga. She won second place at the Nicholas Loren Vocal Competition in 2014. She was a district winner and regional finalist in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in 2013 and 2011 after earning an encouragement award in 2010, and was a national semifinalist in the NATS Artist Award Competition in 2010. She holds degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Lawrence University.

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