

# Emily Michiko Jensen, Soprano



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ARTIST DRIVEN COLLABORATION

## Faust, Boston Opera Collaborative

“Jensen’s sweet soprano was surprisingly versatile, sweeping over us with her more reflective lower register and reaching powerful heights in her clear and crisp upper register. Jensen’s command over her vocal presence, mixed with her evolving character as a young girl to a neglected pregnant woman, created a palpable and heartrending performance.”

Brian Balduzzi, *ArtsImpluse* 01/25/16

“Though it falls to Méphistofélès to conjure the supernatural forces that govern the plot, it was soprano Emily Michiko Jensen, making her company debut as Marguerite, who brought magic to the proceedings. Jensen is a gifted singing actress blessed with fine theatrical instincts and an unusually well rounded, intriguingly versatile instrument. She proved capable of handling the character’s full emotional range with naturalism and specificity, now coquettish, now vulnerable, at times consumed by genuine terror and despair. Her rolling, butterscotch-gold soprano transitioned seamlessly through the registers, revealing a powerful, bright top, a warm, sweet middle range, and rich low notes. Her reading of the show’s most popular hit tune, “Ah! je ris de me voir si belle en ce miroir” (the Jewel Song) perfectly encapsulated the merits of her performance as a whole. Her comic hypocrisy was perfectly judged, as Marguerite speaks of her modesty and hesitation at wearing the rich ornaments left at her doorstep, all the while diving into the jewel box with rapacious delight. Her already lovely sound blossomed and unfolded over the course of the piece, building to an electrifying high note. At her weakest, Jensen was merely excellent; at her best, she was superb.

Kate Stringer, *The Boston Musical Intelligencer* 01/18/16



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## Emily Michiko Jensen Soprano

Japanese-American soprano Emily Michiko Jensen has been praised for her “theatrical instincts and intriguingly versatile instrument.” In the summer of 2023 Ms. Jensen will perform in a gala for the Orfeo Society and Goldovsky Society through the Boston Lyric Opera, and in the start of the 2023-2024 season, Ms. Jensen will return to Boston Lyric Opera to cover Cio-Cio San in *Madama Butterfly*. Ms. Jensen will also make her debut as Mimì in *La bohème* with the Hawaii Opera Theatre in 2024.

In the summer 2022 season, she returned to Chautauqua Opera to sing Angel More and cover Susan B. Anthony in *The Mother of Us All* and cover the title role of *Tosca*. During the 2021-2022 season, she made her Florentine Opera debut as Jessie in Weill’s *Mahagonny, Ein Songspiel*. She also joined Pensacola Opera as a Resident Artist to sing First Lady and cover Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte*, cover Berta in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, and perform Wagner’s *Die Wesendonck lieder* at the Opera Center.

In the 2020-2021 season, Ms. Jensen was slated to join Florentine Opera to perform Maguelonne and cover the title role in Viardot’s *Cendrillon*, cover Countess Ceprano in *Rigoletto*, and cover Mimi in *La bohème* (COVID19). During the pandemic, she joined Opera Company of Middlebury as the soprano soloist/ensemble in a virtual opera production of Michael Ching’s *Completing the Picture*, and made her role debut as the titular role of *Suor Angelica* at the Indiana University Opera Theatre. In 2019-2020, she returned to the Boston Opera Collaborative to sing Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*.

In past seasons, Ms. Jensen enjoyed two consecutive summers with Chautauqua Opera. While with the company, she covered the role of Soprano 2 in *Hydrogen Jukebox*, sang the role of 2nd Soprano in Missy Mazzoli’s *Song from the Uproar* and covered Annina in *La traviata* with Maestro Steven Osgood. She also served as an apprentice artist with Sarasota Opera, and made her professional debut with the Boston Opera Collaborative as Marguerite in *Faust* in 2016.

A veteran in the competition circuit, Ms. Jensen was named a finalist in the 2018 McCammon competition and has been a semi-finalist in Opera San José’s Irene Dalis Vocal Competition, the Gerda Lissner International Vocal Competition, and the Annapolis Opera Competition.

Ms. Jensen was a recipient of the Georgina Joshi International Fellowship from Indiana University where she is a candidate for a Performance Diploma. Featured roles there included Blanche in *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, Foreign Woman in *The Consul*, Suzel in *L’amico Fritz*, Governess in *The Turn of the Screw*, and Tiny in *Paul Bunyan*. Ms. Jensen holds a Graduate Diploma & MM in Vocal Performance from New England Conservatory and a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from the Eastman School of Music.

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## Opera/Musical

Mimi*	<i>La bohème</i>	Hawaii Opera Theatre	2024
Cio-Cio San+*	<i>Madama Butterfly</i>	Boston Lyric Opera	2023
Tosca+	<i>Tosca</i>	Chautauqua Opera	2022
Angel More	<i>Mother of Us All</i>	Chautauqua Opera	2022
Susan B Anthony+	<i>Mother of Us All</i>	Chautauqua Opera	2022
First Lady	<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>	Pensacola Opera	2022
Pamina+	<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>	Pensacola Opera	2022
Berta+	<i>Il barbiere di Siviglia</i>	Pensacola Opera	2022
Jessie	<i>Mahagonny, Ein Songspiel</i>	Florentine Opera	2021
Maguelonne (COVID19)	<i>Cendrillon (Viardot)</i>	Florentine Opera	2021
Cendrillon+ (COVID19)	<i>Cendrillon (Viardot)</i>	Florentine Opera	2021
Mimi+ (COVID19)	<i>La bohème</i>	Florentine Opera	2021
Soloist/Soprano	<i>Completing the Picture</i>	Opera Company of Middlebury	2020
Countess Ceprano (COVID19)+	<i>Rigoletto</i>	Florentine Opera	2020
Alice Ford (COVID19)	<i>Falstaff</i>	Summer Opera Tel Aviv	2020
Suor Angelica	<i>Suor Angelica</i>	IU Opera Theatre	2020
Donna Anna	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	Boston Opera Collaborative	2019
Soprano 2+	<i>Hydrogen Jukebox</i>	Chautauqua Opera	2017
2nd Soprano	<i>Song from the Uproar</i>	Chautauqua Opera	2016
Annina+	<i>La traviata</i>	Chautauqua Opera	2016
Marguerite	<i>Faust</i>	Boston Opera Collaborative	2016

## Oratorio / Concert

Soloist*	Opera Gala	Orfeo Society/Goldovsky Society, Boston Lyric Opera	2023
Soloist	Opera Pops Concert	Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra	2022
Recitalist	Wesendonck Lieder	The Opera Center with Pensacola Opera	2022
Soprano Soloist	Veteran's Day Concert	Pensacola Opera	2021
Soloist	Jukebox Gala	Pensacola Opera	2021
Soloist	Virtual Gala	Florentine Opera	2020

## Competitions/Awards

Semi-finalist	Annapolis Opera Vocal Competition	2022
Semi-finalist	Gerda Lissner Foundation Intl. Vocal Competition	2022
Semi-finalist	Irene Dalis Vocal Competition, Opera San José	2022
The Georgina Joshi International Fellowship	Indiana University	2020
Associate Instructor scholarship & stipend	Indiana University	2019, 2020
Finalist	McCammom Voice Competition	2018

## Training

Apprentice Artist	Chautauqua Opera	2022
Artist in Residence	Pensacola Opera	2021-22
Resident Artist	Florentine Opera	2020-21
Apprentice Artist	Sarasota Opera	2017, 2018
Studio Artist	Chautauqua Opera	2016, 2017

## Education

Performance Diploma	Indiana University	2019-20
Graduate Diploma	New England Conservatory	2015
MM Vocal Performance	New England Conservatory	2013
BM Vocal Performance	Eastman School of Music	2011

\* Upcoming Performance + Cover Role