

# madeleine pierard

soprano

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## BIOGRAPHY

Lyric Soprano, Madeleine Pierard is a Jette Parker Young Artist with The Royal Opera, Covent Garden. She began as a pianist in Napier, New Zealand and later as a member of The New Zealand Youth Choir, The Tudor Consort and Voices New Zealand. After completing studies at Victoria University of Wellington (reading Musicology, Composition and Biomedical Science), she completed her MMus at the RCM International Opera School in London, studying under Lillian Watson. Madeleine was also a 2009/10 trainee at the National Opera Studio in London, sponsored by The Royal Opera. She has won a number of awards during her London residency, notably the Lies Askonas Prize, the Great Elm Award at the Wigmore Hall, The Les Azuriales Ozone Opera Competition in Cap-Ferrat, France and the Singer's Award at the Royal Overseas League Competition. Madeleine is also a New Generation Artist with the Arts Foundation of New Zealand and winner of the 2005 Lexus Song Quest.

Madeleine feels very at home on the opera stage: In 2008, she was named as 'What's Hot' by the international Opera Now magazine. Past roles at the RCM include Helena (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), Cherubino, Prince Charmant (*Cendrillon*) and Thaïs. Professionally, Madeleine has sung the roles Justice (*The First Commandment*) with the Classical Opera Company, Das erste Blumenmädchen (*Parsifal*) and Marzelline (*Fidelio*) with NBR New Zealand Opera, Musetta (*La Bohème*) with Longborough Festival Opera and Vitellia (*La Clemenza di Tito*) with Auckland Opera Studio. With The Royal Opera, Madeleine has sung Sandman (*Hänsel und Gretel*), High Priestess (*Aida*) and Noémie (*Cendrillon*). She also covered the roles of Leila (*The Pearl Fishers*) and Marfa (*The Tsar's Bride*). Next season, Madeleine will cover and sing Lisa (*La Sonnambula*) and later in the season will sing Contessa di Folleville (*Il Viaggio a Reims*), Second Nymph (*Rusalka*) and Slave (*Salome*). She will also cover the roles of Musetta and Donna Anna.

Madeleine has performed extensively on the concert platform throughout NZ and the UK: Notable oratorio soloist performances include *Carmina Burana*, Mozart *Requiem* and Haydn *Nelson Mass* as St Martin-in-the-Fields under Ivor Setterfield, Verdi's *Requiem* with the Cleveland Philharmonic, Haydn's *Creation* in the King's Lynn Festival and Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem*, Beethoven's *Ode to Joy* and the Poulenc *Stabat Mater* at The Royal Festival Hall with the London Philharmonia. Madeleine has also debuted in recital at the Wigmore and Cadogan Halls, appeared with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa and Jonathan Lemalu in recitals in Jersey and London, in a sell-out recital series in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival with Simon Lepper and as soloist on tour with the NZSO in China. This September, Madeleine will tour with the NZSO under Pietari Inkinen with other soloists, Jonathan Lemalu and Simon O'Neill in a series of concerts during the 2011 Rugby World Cup, singing Beethoven's *Ode to Joy* and a commissioned work by NZ composer, Gareth Farr.

Along with opera, Madeleine has a particular interest in performing contemporary works, premiering *Symphony No. 2* written for her by New Zealand composer, Ross Harris with the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra in 2006. Madeleine has also completed two recordings with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra under James Judd, featuring works by Lyell Cresswell and Beethoven works for soprano and orchestra for the Naxos Label.

## RECENT/UPCOMING MAJOR ROLES

Marzelline – *Fidelio* – Ludwig van Beethoven  
Lisa – *La Sonnambula* – Vincenzo Bellini  
Leila (cover) – *Les Pêcheurs de Perles* – G. Bizet  
Helena – *A Midsummer Night's Dream* – B. Britten  
Second Nymph – *Rusalka* – Antonin Dvorak  
Meleagro – *Atalanta* – G. F Handel  
Sandman – *Hänsel und Gretel* – E. Humperdinck  
Noémie – *Cendrillon* – J. Massenet  
Donna Anna (cover) – *Don Giovanni* – Mozart  
Vitellia – *La Clemenza di Tito* – Mozart  
Musetta – *La Bohème* – G. Puccini  
Musetta (cover) – *La Bohème* – G. Puccini  
La Contessa di Folleville – *Il Viaggio a Reims* – G. Rossini  
Marfa (cover) – *The Tsar's Bride* – N. Rimsky-Korsakov

NBR New Zealand Opera, Jonas Alber  
ROH, Daniel Oren/Marco Arturo Marelli (Nov 2011)  
ROH, Antonio Pappano (Oct 2010)  
BBIOS, Michael Rosewell/Ian Judge  
ROH, Yannick Nézet-Séguin/Jossi Wieler  
LHS/BBIOS, Laurence Cummings/Chris Cowell  
ROH, Rory McDonald/Maurier/Leiser (Dec 2010)  
ROH, Bertrand de Billy/Laurent Pelly (July 2011)  
ROH, Constantinos Carydis/Francesca Zambello (Jan 2012)  
Auckland Opera Studio, Peter Scholes/R Hawthorne  
Longborough Festival Opera, Robert Dean/Maria Jagusz  
ROH, Seymour Bychkov/John Copley (May 2012)  
ROH, Daniele Rustioni/Pedro Ribeiro (July 2012)  
ROH, Mark Elder/Paul Curran (April 2011)

## RECENT CONCERT EXPERIENCE

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### Recital:

- Classical Opera Company – A to Z of Mozart concert with Andrew Staples and Benedict Nelson
- Soloist in concert with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa and Gardar Cortes in Jersey
- Canteloube *Les Chants d’Auvergnés* with the NZSO YO/ Jacques Lacombe
- Barber *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* and McCartney *Ecce Cor Meum* with Vector Wellington Orchestra
- YSWF Recital at The Wigmore Hall, alongside Sir Thomas Allen, Sarah Connolly and others
- Various recitals at the Cadogan Hall
- Soloist in various song/opera recitals for the ROSL with pianists James Baillieu and Simon Lepper
- Solo appearance for H. M. Queen Elizabeth II at Westminster Abbey on Commonwealth Day
- Soloist with Jonathan Lemalu at St John’s Smith Square in NZ Youth Choir Concert

### Oratorio:

- Soprano – Mozart *Requiem* at St Martin-in-the-Fields, New London Soloists/Ivor Setterfield
- Soprano – Vaughan Williams *Dona Nobis Pacem* at the Royal Festival Hall, Barts Choir/Ivor Setterfield
- Soprano – Beethoven *Ode to Joy/Poulenc Stabat Mater* at the Royal Festival Hall, London Philharmonia/Ivor Setterfield
- Soprano – Orff *Carmina Burana* and Haydn *Nelsonmesse* at St Martin-in-the-Fields, NLS/Ivor Setterfield
- Soprano – Tippett *A Child of Our Time* /Vaughan Williams *Dona Nobis Pacem* with the Abbey Consort
- Soprano – Haydn *Creation* – King’s Lynn Festival Chorus and Orchestra with Sam Evans and Tyler Clarke
- Soprano – Verdi *Requiem* –with Cleveland Philharmonic Choir and South Holland Singers
- Soprano – Verdi *Requiem* –with Soprano – Poulenc *Gloria– Vivace* Chorus at Guildford Cathedral
- Soprano – *Messiah* – Handel – The Tudor Consort and Vector Wellington Orchestra/ Michael Stewart
- Mezzo-soprano – Mozart *Requiem* – NZSO, Voices New Zealand, Nicholas McGegan

## CURRICULUM VITAE

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### Education:

2009-2010	Completed training at the National Opera Studio in London
2006-2009	Completed MMus and Artists Diploma (Distinction) at BBIOS (RCM), London
2005	Completed BMus Hons (Perf) (1 <sup>st</sup> Class) at Victoria University of Wellington
2003	Completed Bmus (Cmpo) at Victoria University of Wellington
1999	Awarded ATCL, pianoforte, Exhibition Award from TCL

### Vocal Tuition:

2006-2010	Teacher: Lillian Watson; Coaches: Mark Packwood, David Syrus, Martin Isepp, Laurence Cummings, David Gowland, Paul Farrington, Andrew Watts, Yvonne Kenny, Elizabeth Connell, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Richard Hetherington, Paul Griffiths, Lada Valesova
2003-2006	Jenny Wollerman, Wellington; Margaret Medlyn, Wellington;
2005	Masterclasses with Virginia Zeani (res. Indiana, USA); Grace Bumbry (res. Salzburg)

### Competition Awards:

2009	Winner of Lies Askonas Prize, RCM, London
2009	Winner of ROSL Singer’s Competition, London
2008	Winner of Les Azuriales Opera competition, Côte d’Azur, France
2007	Winner of Great Elm Vocal Award at the Wigmore Hall, London
2005	Winner of Lexus Song Quest (Formerly Mobil Song Quest), 2005

### Academic Awards/Scholarships:

2009/10	Creative New Zealand Professional Development Scholarship The Royal Opera Scholarship for NOS trainee
2008/09	Irene Hanson Scholarship (through RCM) Edward and Helen Hague Scholarship (through RCM) Professor Jack Richards and Won Gyu Moon - Private Scholarship
2006/07	Patricia Pratt Scholarship Jack McGill Scholarship Irene Hanson Scholarship (through RCM) Creative New Zealand Professional Development Scholarship

## RECENT REVIEW

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"In this performance we heard New Zealander Madeleine Pierard: assured, confident, very convincing as a young man. She dealt with Meleagro’s complex arias splendidly, her voice rippling though the intricate settings with suppleness and purity of tone. The aria 'Tu solcasti il mare infido' must be among the most brilliant of Handel’s compositions. Pierard dazzled in it, yet the steady line of her 'Care selve' showed her equally at home in graceful music. Hearing her for the first time, I was very impressed and shall certainly look out for her. Justice asks for a fine future for her."

(Atalanta for the London Handel Festival),  
Classical Source, 21 April 2008