

Margaret Maye

mezzosoprano, actress, producer, director, organizer

Today she is an eclectic vocalist, a classical singer with both a great respect for the past and an enthusiastic embrace of contemporary music.

Her musical tastes and boundaries have continued to change and to expand. Passionately dedicated to her work, she is always striving for artistic excellence. This versatile singer and actress is constantly challenging her abilities. In her search for communication and artistic expression she had explored and established herself as an outstanding performer in various musical styles and genres.

Her strongly varied repertoire extends from early and modern music, opera and oratorio, to include operetta, music theatre, cabaret and jazz.

This exuberant chanteuse is known for her interpretations of songs from the repertoire of E. Piaf, M. Dietrich, B. Brecht, H. Ordonowna and J. Ambramow-Nevery. She moves with ease through this repertory with the charisma and the kind of "edge" necessary for these styles.

This sensitive artist has graced the audiences with a voice of a beautiful sound, great range and flexibility that she uses and adjusts accordingly to the diverse styles of her performances; charismatic stage presence, poise and dramatic interpretations, and proven that she is equally at home with sultry Latin tempos as she is with soaring operatic flights (particularly in her portrayals in the title roles of Bizet's Carmen, Gluck's Orfeus and Mozart's Idamante).

Born in Poland, received her education at the School of Music and Dramatic Arts at the Music Theatre in Gdynia and the Music Academy in Wroclaw.

She has sung in Poland, France, Germany, Canada and United States. Now she makes her home in Toronto.

For many years she was a member of **Musica Antiqua Vocal Ensemble**, a group specializing in oratorio and early music.

Her dramatic performances also include television and film.

In addition to her career as a performer, she has clearly demonstrated her abilities as an organizer, producer and director. Since the inception of **Bravo International and Singers on Stage**, Ms. Maye has produced a number of interesting events, exploring inventive ideas and rich repertoire. Her productions have explored the connections extending from traditional and modern, classical and jazz and integrate different elements into a fusion of musical styles, genres and languages.

Ms. Maye has been an enthusiastic participant in Canadian cultural life since she first arrived in Canada in 1988.

She joined the Polish-Canadian Society of Music and later the Salon of Music and Poetry. Since then she has held singing and dramatic leads in a countless number of performances of that company.

She has also collaborated with: Toronto Operetta Theatre, Opera in Concert, Summer Opera Lyric Theatre, Mississauga City Opera, Toronto Sinfonietta Orchestra, Polonia Theatre, Polish Music Theatre, Cabaret "Pod Banka" etc.

Ms. Maye places great importance on giving back to the community. In both her professional and volunteer activities, she has done much to promote the arts through her work with many organizations. She has also demonstrated an ongoing commitment to improving the quality of life for others in need, particularly those with epilepsy.

Margaret Maye has shared her talent and passion for singing, music and theatre for about twenty years in Canada. In recognition of her significant and continuing contribution to the arts, she was presented, in December 2004, with the prestigious **Order of Merit** from **Ministry of Culture of The Republic of Poland**.