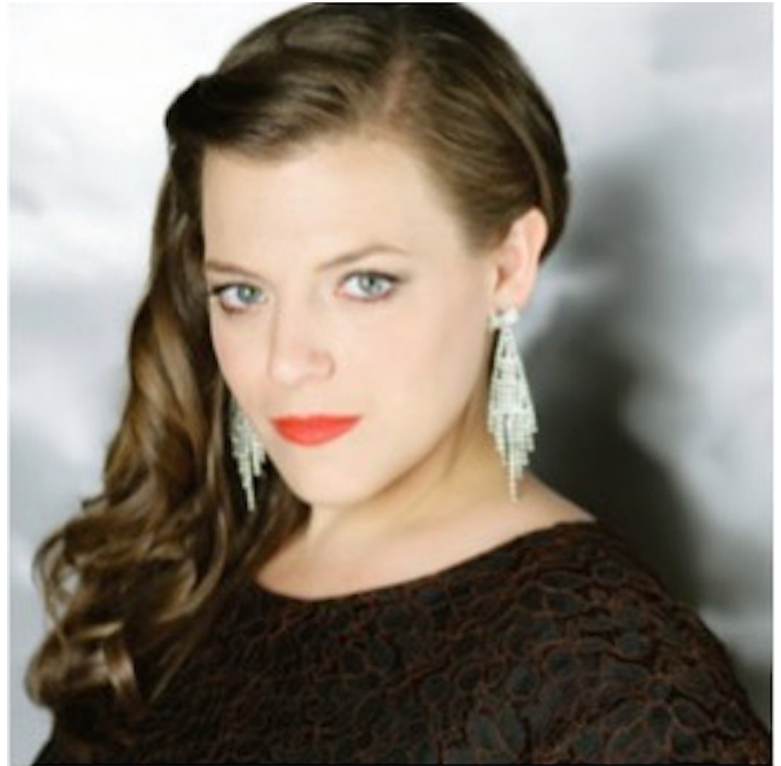


MELINDA WHITTINGTON, soprano

The *Salt Lake Tribune* praises Melinda Whittington for her “performances of emotional resonance along with their powerhouse vocals.” In her home state, she makes her debut with North Carolina Opera as Ada in Higdon’s **Cold Mountain** and sings the Contessa in **Le nozze di Figaro** with Opera Carolina in the 2017-18 season. She makes role debuts as Juliette in **Roméo et Juliette** with Opera Birmingham and as the title role of **Arabella** with Pittsburgh Festival Opera, sings further performances of the Contessa in **Le nozze di Figaro** with Opera Grand Rapids, and returns to Wolf Trap for a birthday concert celebration honoring composer John Corigliano. Last season, she returned to Arizona Opera for the title role of **Rusalka** in addition to joining Utah Opera as Donna Anna in **Don Giovanni**, Greensboro Opera as Micaëla in **Carmen**, and the Lyric Opera of Chicago for its production of **Eugene Onegin**.



Among the soprano’s other recent performances are debuts with Arizona Opera as Donna Anna in **Don Giovanni**, Ash Lawn Opera as Fiordiligi in **Così fan tutte**, Kentucky Opera as the Contessa in **Le nozze di Figaro**, Green Mountain Opera as Donna Elvira in **Don Giovanni**, and both Zweite Dame in **Die Zauberflöte** and Lauretta in **Gianni Schicchi** with Opera Carolina. She sang Marie Antoinette in Corigliano’s **The Ghosts of Versailles** and Micaëla in **Carmen** during her two summers at Wolf Trap Opera. Also while a Filene Young Artist at Wolf Trap, she presented a recital in collaboration with the Phillips Collection, pairing art songs and popular songs with art from the museum. Ms. Whittington is a former Resident Artist of the Academy of Vocal Arts, at which she sang Marguerite in **Faust** and Fiordiligi in **Così fan tutte**. She recently joined Opera Philadelphia for an exciting evening of new opera with Opera Philadelphia and their composers in residence, Lembit Beecher and Missy Mazzoli. On the concert stage, she has sung Beethoven’s **Symphony No. 9** with the Philadelphia Sinfonia, Orff’s **Carmina burana** with the Back Bay Chorale, and excerpts of Juliette in **Roméo et Juliette** with the Carolina Symphony.

She is the 2016 third place winner in Fort Worth Opera’s McCammon Voice Competition, 2015 first place winner of the Opera Birmingham competition, a 2013 semi-finalist of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, winner of the Charlotte Opera Guild Competition, and an encouragement award winner in the Gerda Lissner International Vocal Competition. She is a former participant in the prestigious Merola Opera Program in association with San Francisco Opera at which she performed scenes as the title role in Donizetti’s **Anna Bolena**, Barber’s **Vanessa**, and Bizet’s **Le jolie fille de Perth**. She holds a Master of Music degree from the University of North Carolina Greensboro and a Bachelor of Music from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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