EMILY GELLER | CONTRALTO

NEW CLASSICAL ARTIST MANAGEMENT

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Lauded for her "lower extension that has to be heard to be believed," Emily Geller is a contralto based in New York City. A uniquely versatile artist, she has established herself as a performer to watch in opera, operetta, new music, musical theater, and oratorio.

The 2022-2023 season includes Mrs. Quickly in *Falstaff* and Zita in *Gianni Schicchi* with **Salt Marsh Opera**, Ruth in *The Pirates of Penzance* with **Pacific Opera Project**, and Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly* with **Teatro Lirico d'Europa** for their US Tour. In addition to opera, Ms. Geller is appearing in numerous concerts, including Brahms's *Alto Rhapsody* and Elgar's *The Music Makers* with **Cappella Cantorum**, Brahms's *Alto Rhapsody* with the **Mendelssohn Glee Club of New York City**, and Handel's *Messiah* with **Taconic Opera**.

Ms. Geller's 2021-2022 season featured a non-traditional casting as Germont in *La traviata* with **MassOpera** at the historic Eustis Estate, and "Gather Together: A Taste for the Season" with **Tri-Cities Opera,** and Elder Constance in Matthew Aucoin's *Second Nature* with **Opera Fayetteville**. She returned to **Newport Classical** to Benoit/Alcindoro in *La bohème*, continuing the exciting casting theme.

Ms. Geller's 2020-2021 season, canceled due to Covid-19, included Desiree Armfeldt in *A Little Night Music* with **Tri-Cities Opera**, Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly* with **NJ Association of Verismo Opera**, and Florence Pike in *Albert Herring* with **Penn Square Music Festival**.

In the 2019-2020 season, Ms. Geller garnered rave reviews for creating the role of Sylvia, an image-obsessed Hollywood mother, in the world premiere of *Chunky in Heat* with **Experiments in Opera** and **Contemporaneous** as a part of New York Opera Festival. Opera News singled her out for the "layers of complexity" she brought to her character. She also toured the East Coast as Flora (*La traviata*) with **Teatro Lirico d'Europa**, including collaborations with **Opera New Hampshire** and **Palmetto Opera**. Ms. Geller was also featured as the alto soloist in Handel's *Messiah* with the **MidAtlantic Symphony Orchestra** in The Great Auditorium in Ocean Grove, NJ. Additional concert work included "Meeting of the Masters" with the **Westchester Oratorio Society** presenting works of Bach and Mozart, and "Songs of a Traveler" solo recital at The Long Island Children's Museum presented by **Chamber Players International**.

Recent notable concert soloist work includes Mozart's *Requiem*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Bach's *Weihnachts-Oratorium*, Duruflé's *Requiem*, Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb*, and Handel's *Messiah* at companies across the United States.

Ms. Geller has been a Resident Artist at **Opera North**, **Opera on the James**, **Natchez Festival of Music**, and **Tri-Cities Opera**. As an audience favorite, Ms. Geller returned to **Opera North** several times, performing Ma Moss (*The Tender Land*), Mrs. Jones (*Street Scene*), Hattie (*Kiss Me, Kate*), and Oreste (*La belle Hélène*). After covering Marthe (*Faust*) at **St. Petersburg Opera**, she was invited back as a Principal Artist, appearing as Alma Hix and covering Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn (*The Music Man*). As a two-year Resident Artist with **Tri-Cities Opera**, she performed Prince Orlofsky (*Die Fledermaus*), Mercédès (*Carmen*), Lola (*Cavalleria rusticana*) and Ines (*Il trovatore*).

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ROLES PERFORMED

Mrs. Quickly	*Falstaff*	Salt Marsh Opera	2023
Ruth	*The Pirates of Penzance*	Pacific Opera Project	2023
Suzuki	*Madama Butterfly*	Teatro Lirico D'Europa	'18/'20/'23
Zita	*Gianni Schicchi*	Salt Marsh Opera	2022
Benoit/Alcindoro	*La bohème*	Newport Classical	2022
Elder Constance	*Second Nature*	Opera Fayetteville	2022
Germont	*La traviata*	MassOpera	2021
Florence Pike*	*Albert Herring*	Penn Square Music Festival	2021
Suzuki*	*Madama Butterfly*	NJ Association of Verismo	2020
Desiree Armfeldt*	*A Little Night Music*	Tri-Cities Opera	2020
Flora	*La traviata*	Teatro Lirico D'Europa	2020
Sylvia (world premiere)	*Chunky in Heat*	Experiments in Opera	2019
Manette	*Sweethearts*	Victor Herbert Renaissance Project	2019
Alma Hix/ Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn**	*The Music Man*	St. Petersburg Opera	2019
Marthe**	*Faust*	St. Petersburg Opera	2018
Aninna	*La traviata*	MidAtlantic Opera Company	2017
Oreste	*La belle Hélène*	Opera North	2017
Hattie	*Kiss Me, Kate*	Opera North	2017
Prinz Orlofsky	*Die Fledermaus*	Taconic Opera	2017
Witch	*Hansel and Gretel*	Opera Pomme Rouge	2017
Erste Mägde	*Elektra*	New York Opera Forum	2016
Ma Moss	*The Tender Land*	Opera North	2015
Kate Pinkerton	*Madama Butterfly*	Natchez Festival of Music	2015
Kate	*The Pirates of Penzance*	Natchez Festival of Music	2015
Scholar	*Heloise and Abelard*	Center for Contemporary Opera	2015
Mrs. Emma Jones	*Street Scene*	Opera North	2014
Prince Orlofsky	*Die Fledermaus*	Tri-Cities Opera	2014
Mercédès	*Carmen*	Tri-Cities Opera	2014
Lola	*Cavalleria rusticana*	Tri-Cities Opera	2013
Ines	*Il trovatore*	Tri-Cities Opera	2013
Giannetta**	*L'elisir d'amore*	Opera on the James	2012
Wife	*The Music Shop*	Opera on the James	2012
Katisha	*The Mikado*	Staten Island Philharmonic	2011

*denotes Covid19 cancellation
** denotes cover

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CONCERT & ORATORIO

Brahms *Alto Rhapsody* and Elgar *The Music Makers*	Cappella Cantorum, Old Saybrook, CT	2023
Handel *Messiah*	Taconic Opera, Croton-on-Hudson, NY	2022
Brahms *Alto Rhapsody*	Mendelssohn Glee Club of New York City, NYC	2022
"Gather Together: A Musical Potluck"	Tri-Cities Opera, Binghamton, NY	2021
A Summer Evening at Castle Hill*	Newport Classical, Newport, RI	2020
"Train Travel" (Recital with Nicolò Sbuelz)	Long Island Children's Museum, Garden City, NY	2020
"Meeting of the Masters" BWV 62, 36,m K. 47, K. 276	Westchester Oratorio Society, Mount Kisco, NY	2019
Madame Thénardier in *Les Misérables*	Westchester Symphonic Winds, NY	2019
"A Musical Christmas"	Newport Classical, Newport, RI	2019
Handel *Messiah*	MidAtlantic SO.: Great Auditorium, Ocean Grove, NJ	2019
Oscar Hammerstein Award: Honoring Susan Stroman	The York Theatre Company at The Edison Ballroom, NY	2018
"Holiday Spectacular"	Long Island Concert Orchestra, Patchogue Theatre, NY	2018
"Opera, Schmopera: Celebrating the Jewish Heritage"	Opera North: Roth Center, Hanover, NH	2017
"An American Portrait Series: An Evening of R&H"	Northern Dutchess SO: Marriott Pavilion, Hyde Park, NY	2015
Mozart *Requiem*	Hopkins Center for the Arts, Hanover, NH	2015
Handel *Messiah*	Pentangle's Classical Music Series, Woodstock, VT	'14/15
"There's a Place for Us: A Flavor of the Season"	Opera North: Wilder Center, Wilder, VT	2015
Bach *Weihnachts-Oratorium*	Anderson Center for the Arts, Binghamton, NY	2015
"Country Nights to New York Lights"	Opera North: Wilder Center, Wilder, VT	2014

*denotes Covid19 cancellation

TRAINING St. Petersburg Opera, Opera North, Tri-Cities Opera, Opera on the James, Musiktheater Bavaria

EDUCATION Binghamton University, MM in Opera 2014 **|** New England Conservatory, BM in Vocal Performance 2008

CONDUCTORS	DIRECTORS	COACHES	VOICE
David Bloom	Martha Collins	Cris Frisco	Matthew Anchel
Louis Burkot	David Lefkowich	Gloria Kim	Mary Burgess
Michael Sakir	Alison Moritz	Audrey Saint-Gil	Andrea DelGiudice
Simon Holt	Josh Shaw	Nicolò Sbuelz	Barbara Honn
Jason Tramm			

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SYLVIA/ *CHUNKY IN HEAT*/ EXPERIMENTS IN OPERA & CONTEMPORANEOUS

"As Mother and Father, contralto Emily Geller and baritone Joshua Jeremiah **brought layers of complexity to their seemingly shallow and emotionally stunted characters**." - -
-Opera News

"The woman they described was well masked (at times literally to keep down the swelling from the treatments) in Emily Geller's mother, who was all brittle glitz and efficiency. Geller possesses an **amazing mezzo-soprano voice with a lower extension that has to be heard to be believed**. At times, it could be cold, almost masculine sounding, but warm and dreamy at others. The mother has a short aria in which she relates that all of Billy's goldfish died on the same day he did, but that she has replaced them over and over again. It was a simple and beautiful moment, in which Geller let the audience have a glimpse into the woman's soul."
-Seen and Heard International

"As the mother, Emily Geller is busy warding off sorrow with botox, the plastic surgeon's knife and starvation. Ms. Geller is a **thrilling contralto, tripping off high and low notes as she tips around in her spikes**."
-ConcertoNet.com

"Everything about this production is so uniformly superb it's hard to single out an individual for praise."
-Observer

ALTO SOLOIST/ HANDEL'S *MESSIAH*/ OCEAN GROVE CAMP MEETING ASSOCIATION

"The soloists were superb. ... Emily Geller with her **mesmerizing low pitched mezzo voice**..."
-Blogfinger

ORESTE/ *LA BELLE HÉLÈNE*/ OPERA NORTH

"Mezzo-soprano **Emily Geller was an effervescent delight** in the pants-role of Oreste."
-Times Argus

"Emily Geller, wisely cast as Helene's cousin Orestes, conveys a playboy-posh swagger as only a woman can. Kurt Domoney's deft choreography amplifies **Geller's knack for comedy: At one point, she unleashes a saucy dance on a tabletop that elicited peals of laughter from the audience**."
-Valley News

MA MOSS/ *THE TENDER LAND*/ OPERA NORTH

"Emily Geller, who was a **stand-out** in last year's Opera North production of Kurt Weill's Street Scene, **is affecting as Ma Moss**, particularly when she flashes back to Laurie's childhood."
-Valley News

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"**All of which left plenty to the imagination and drew me to one character, Ma Moss (Emily Geller)**. A little sour, wary, distrustful, maybe a slightly upscale version of the migrant mother in the famed Dorothea Lange photo, with that same tiredness of soul."
-The Upper Valley

"...Ma, given **real gravitas** — as well as desperation — by contralto Emily Geller."
-Times Argus

MRS. EMMA JONES / STREET SCENE/ OPERA NORTH
"Emily Geller, as the loquacious, nosy neighbor Emma Jones, **comes dangerously close to stealing the show with her effortless comic delivery**."
-Valley News

ORLOFSKY/ *DIE FLEDERMAUS*/ TRI-CITIES OPERA
"A raised glass of champagne for all the leads... **Emily Geller as Prince Orlofsky** (a "trouser role" conventionally played by a woman) [is] to be **especially commended**."
-Broome Arts Mirror

MERCÉDÈS/*CARMEN*/ TRI-CITIES OPERA
"As Frasquita and Mercedes, Carmen's gypsy cohorts, Melanie Leinbach and **Emily Geller showed strong voices and presented a convincing and musically appealing Act III Card Scene**... [The boys'] Act II quintet with Carmen, Frasquita and Mercedes was a musical highlight."
-Broome Arts Mirror

WITCH/ *MACBETH*/ LOFT OPERA
"The Witches' Chorus was **admirably animated and creepy, doing fine justice to the detailed musical treatment Verdi gives them** ... effectively controlling and pervading everything in the mortal world around them."
-La Scena Musicale

"The chorus must also be commended for jumping around from the roles of witches to murderers to party guests to exiles. They **sang brilliantly and cohesively** throughout the night." - David Salazar, Operawire

"The chorus had much to do here, portraying the witches as terrifying goth girls gone wrong... The most moving part of the whole show was the Act IV chorus 'Patria oppressa...'" - Paul J. Pelkonen, Super-conductor

"The women were **particularly admirable for their versatility**, shifting on a dime from the witches' snarling prophecies to the heartbreaking pathos of Verdi's chorus of Scottish exiles." - James Jorden, Observer

KATISHA/ *THE MIKADO* / C-R PRODUCTIONS AT COHOES MUSIC HALL
"Every detail has been tended …But all of that doesn't add much if the cast can't sing. This one can… Emily Geller, for example, **brings a gravity to the mirthless Katisha**…"
-Times Union

"**Geller gives depth to her maleficent character** in the moving ballad 'Alone, And Yet Alive!'"
–Daily Gazette

"Also making valuable contributions is **Emily Geller who is excellent as she makes the fierce Katisha the fiancée from hell**."
-Troy Record

DUCHESS/ *THE GONDOLIERS*/ COLLEGE LIGHT OPERA COMPANY
"Emily Geller is **delightfully over the top**…"
-Cape Cod Times

"**Also superb was Emily Geller** as the Duchess of Plaza-toro. Her extravagant wigs and outrageous costumes add zaniness to this wonderful comic role."
-Falmouth Enterprise

QUEEN OF THE FAIRIES/ *IOLANTHE*/ COLLEGE LIGHT OPERA COMPANY
"The Queen of the Fairies (a **regal and radiant** Emily Geller)…"
-Cape Cod Times

"Ms. Geller makes a wonderful queen, creating a wise, but quirky and self-centered leader, who is **most enjoyable to watch and listen to**." - Marilyn J. Rowland, Falmouth Enterprise

MISS JONES/ *HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING*/ COLLEGE LIGHT OPERA COMPANY
"**Emily Geller is outstanding** as the straight-laced Miss Jones…"
-Falmouth Enterprise

KATE/ *THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE*/ HARVARD-RADCLIFFE GILBERT AND SULLIVAN PLAYERS
"…Emily Geller who **boasts perhaps the strongest voice** as Mabel's sister Kate…" "The cast as a whole demonstrated a great sense of comedy… the sold out audiences speak as loudly to the ability of this particularly gifted cast."
-Harvard Crimson