



SIENA FOREST, SOPRANO

Praised for her “mesmerizing sound... [which] would rival Homer’s sirens,” **Siena Forest**, an American soprano, stands out for her “spunkiness and feisty vocalism” and deftness in bringing characters and stories to life on stage. Siena has garnered praise premiering new works and for her refreshingly relatable interpretations of traditional repertoire. Recently, Siena premiered the role of Paula Jordan in William Bolcom’s *Dinner at Eight* where she “fervently sang” a “gorgeous ballad” (“One Moment He’s Devoted”)... “one of the performances vocal highlights.” Siena reprised her role as Frasquita in *Carmen* with the Lakes Area Music Festival under the baton of Andrew Altenbach and in the summer of 2018 will be returning to Mill City Summer Opera. Siena also enjoys appearing frequently with Out of the Box Opera exposing new audiences to opera in unconventional venues. She has a passion for connecting to a community and breaking down the outdated stigmas of the art form.

During the 2015-2016 season with Minnesota Opera, Siena realized the roles of Echo in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Pamina in Komische Oper Berlin’s unforgettable production of *Die Zauberflöte* where she “soared through her arias, especially Act 2’s ‘Ach, ich fühl’s, es ist verschwunden,’” and was the first of the “exquisitely sung” Wood Sprites in Dvořák’s *Rusalka*. Siena sang the role of Wendy Torrence in the workshops of the highly acclaimed world premiere of Stephen King’s *The Shining*, composed by Paul Moravec with librettist Mark Campbell. That Christmas Siena was the soprano soloist in South Dakota Symphony’s performance of Handel’s *Messiah* and received an Encouragement Award from the Metropolitan Opera Auditions Minnesota District. Siena continued her exploration of bel canto repertoire and covered the role of Marie in *La fille du regiment* with Mill City Summer Opera (2015). She also had the honor of singing with Minnesota Orchestra at their outdoor Music in Plymouth summer concert.

In Minnesota Opera’s 2014-2015 season Siena took the stage as the Dew Fairy in *Hänsel und Gretel* and covered Gretel. “Soaring above the patter of a lively smuggler’s quintet” Siena “engagingly performed” a “memorable characterization” of Frasquita in *Carmen* and was chosen as one of the top 10 scene-stealing performances in the Twin Cities Arts Reader. Siena also covered Adina in *L’elisir d’amore*, and Jocelyn Jordan in the world premiere of *The Manchurian Candidate* by the Pulitzer Prize winning team, Kevin Puts and Mark Campbell. Siena starred as Pamina in Mozart’s *The Magic Flute* and was featured as the soprano soloist in Beethoven’s 9th Symphony with the OK Mozart International Music Festival under Constantine Kitsopoulos’s baton in the summer of 2014. With the Indiana University Opera Theater, Siena sang Gretel in *Hansel and Gretel*, Nannetta in *Falstaff*, and Musetta in *La bohème*.

In addition to her recent success in Piccola Opera’s Third Annual Opera Voice Competition, Siena has been recognized by multiple organizations including the Mildred Miller International Voice Competition, Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, Central City Opera (Patsy Rose Musser Award), and Indiana University (Wilfred C. Bain Opera Scholarship Competition, Schilling-Tourner Friends of Music Scholarship, Artistic Excellence Award and Music Faculty Award). She holds a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree from Indiana University where she studied with Carol Vaness.



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OPERATIC REPERTOIRE

Bellini:

Amina, Lisa – La sonnambula
Giulietta – I Capuletti e i Montecchi

Bernstein:

Cunegonda - Candide

Bizet:

Frasquita – Carmen

Bolcom:

Paula Jordan – Dinner at Eight

Britten:

Mrs. Wordsworth – Albert Herring
Flora – Turn of the Screw
Tiny – Paul Bunyon
Tytania – A Midsummer Night's Dream

Donizetti:

Adina, Giannetta – L'elisir d'amore
Norina – Don Pasquale
Marie – La fille du regiment

Dvorak:

1st Wood Sprite - Rusalka

Gilbert & Sullivan:

Josephine – HMS Pinafore
Mabel – Pirates of Penzance

Handel:

Agrippina – Agrippina
Alcina – Alcina
Dalinda – Ariodante

Humperdinck:

Gretel, Dew Fairy - Hänsel und Gretel

Massenet:

La Fee, Noemie – Cendrillon
Manon – Manon
Mireille – Mireille
Sophie – Werther

Moore:

Baby Doe – The Ballad of Baby Doe

Moravec:

Wendy Torrance – The Shining

Mozart:

Barbarina, Marcellina, Susanna – Le nozze di Figaro
Despina – Così fan tutte
Ilia – Idomeneo
Servilia, - La clemenza di Tito
Zerlina – Don Giovanni
Pamina, Papagena - Die Zauberflöte
Mlle Silberklang – Der Schauspieldirektor



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OPERATIC REPERTOIRE (CONT.)

Offenbach:

Olympia – Les contes d’Hoffmann

Puccini:

Lauretta – Gianni Schicchi

Musetta – La bohème

Puccini:

Jocelyn Jordan – The Manchurian Candidate

Rorem:

Emily – Our Town

Strauss, J.:

Adele – Die Fledermaus

Strauss, R.:

Echo, Naxos – Ariadne auf Naxos

Sophie – Der Rosenkavalier

Fiakermilli, Zdenka – Arabella

Verdi:

Gilda – Rigoletto

Nannetta – Falstaff

Oscar – Un ballo in maschera

Weber:

Ännchen - Der Freischütz

ORCHESTRAL/ORATORIO REPERTOIRE

Beethoven:

9th Symphony

Handel:

Messiah

Haydn:

The Creation

Missa Sancti Nicolai

Mahler:

4th Symphony

Mozart:

Requiem

Orff:

Carmina Burana



SIENA FOREST, SOPRANO

CONDUCTORS

David Agler
Michael Christie
David Efron
Andrew Altenbach

Arthur Fagen
Constantine Kitsopoulos
Anne Manson

DIRECTORS

Michael Cavanagh
JJ Hudson
David Lefkovich

Eric Simonson
Doug Varone
Tomer Zyulum

COACHES/TEACHERS

Robert Ainsley
Lara Bolton
Mary Jo Gothmann
Teresa Kubjak

Dale Johnson
Eric McEnaney
George Smith
Carol Vanes

OPERA HOUSES/THEATERS

Central City Opera
Minnesota Opera
Mill City Summer Opera

Lakes Area Music Festival
OK Mozart International Festival
Indiana University Opera Theater



SIENA FOREST, SOPRANO **REVIEWS**

***Dinner at Eight* – as Paula Jordan at Minnesota Opera 2017**

"Each of the principal characters is either oblivious to the realities of the depression or trying to ignore them, with just enough money or social capital to avoid the realities, at least for now... The Jordans' headstrong 19-year-old daughter Paula is in love with forty-something Larry Renault, a played-out silent screen heartthrob striving to revive his career. His love is divided between Paula and the bottle... Put this collection of misguided or misled folks together, throw in a few servants, stir, bake, and you have a sumptuous main course."

Arthur Dorman (Talkin' Broadway)

"Each of the main characters delivers a strong, self-defining aria or duet. The Jordan's daughter, Paula, who is having an affair with a washed up silent-screen actor, sings a gorgeous ballad in the first act, a lament concerning her rocky romance, the kind of number that used to be called a torch song ("He needs me/Needs me badly"), fervently sung here by Siena Forest... Zvulun's cast couldn't be faulted. Singer-actors of high accomplishment, they are outstanding" - [Michael Anthony](#) (The Star Tribune)

"Another couple on the rocks, Larry Renault (Richard Troxell) and Paula Jordan (Siena Forest), plays out a darker mirror of this situation, with Forest's rendition of "One moment he's devoted..." one of the performance's vocal highlights."

Basil Considine (Twin Cities Arts Reader)

***Rusalka* – as 1st Wood Sprite at Minnesota Opera 2016**

"The exquisitely sung Dryads were Siena Forest, Bergen Baker and Jennifer Panara."

[Michael Anthony](#) (The Star Tribune)

"Speaking of female vocal power, the mesmerizing sound of the trio of Dryads.. would have rivaled Homer's sirens."

Floyds Emporium

***Die Zauberflöte* – as Pamina at Minnesota Opera 2015**

"While she suffered the perils of Pamina, soprano Siena Forest soared through her arias, especially Act 2's "Ach, ich fühl's, es ist verschwunden," until she was finally united with Tamino. She also got to wear a killer black gown courtesy of costume (and set) designer Esther Bialas."

Lawrance Bernabo (Duluth News Tribune)



SIENA FOREST, SOPRANO **REVIEWS(Cont.)**

Ariadne auf Naxos – as Echo at Minnesota Opera 2015

The second part, the opera, is dominated by sopranos: "The Prima Donna" (Amber Wagner), Zerbinetta (Erin Morley) and the addition of Naiad (Jeni Houser), Dryad (Helena Brown), and Echo (Siena Forest). The mix, talent and number of sopranos delivers on the consummately beautiful music of Strauss' score."

[Michael J. Opperman](#) (Aisle Say Twin Cities)

Carmen – as Frasquita at Minnesota Opera 2015

"Siena Forest and Bergen Baker create memorable characterizations as Carmen's rowdy retinue, Forest's pure soprano soaring above the patter of a lively smugglers' quintet, Andrew Lovato and Brad Benoit holding up the low end admirably."

[Rob Hubbard](#) (The Twin Cities Arts Reader)

"The smaller parts were engagingly performed as well: Frasquita (Siena Forest), Mercedes (Bergen Baker) and Morales (Gerard Michael D'Emilio)."

[Michael Anthony](#) (The Star Tribune)

"Sourouzian's most affecting singing came in the card scene (in the company of Bergen Baker's nimble Mercèdes and Siena Forest's frisky Frasquita)"

[Larry Fuchsberg](#) (Opera News)

AWARDS

- Mildred Miller International Voice Competition Semifinalist
- Piccola Opera Annual Opera Competition 4th Place
- MET National Council Auditions Minnesota District Encouragement Award
- Wilfred C. Bain Opera Scholarship Competition at Indiana University 1st Place
- Schilling-Tourner Friends of Music Voice Scholarship at Indiana University
- Award in Honor of Patsy Rose Musser at Central City Opera
- Music Faculty Award at Indiana University



MIA Artists Management

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