



ENCOMPASS ARTS



Monica Harte

A true visionary, Monica is most noted as the Co-Founder and General Director of Remarkable Theater Brigade (RTB) in NYC, where she launched the highly successful annual production of Opera Shorts at Carnegie Hall. Revolutionizing the typically tradition medium of opera, her creation of Opera Shorts presents some of the most exciting

living composers of our time in contemporary operas lasting ten minutes or less, opening up the world of opera to more types of audiences.

As a director, producer, renowned Soprano, and top vocal coach, Monica's career has taken her across North America and Europe with more than 25 coloratura roles in the standard and contemporary repertoire and dozens of directed productions. In January of 2012, Monica was named General Director of the Nevada Opera Association (NOA), the company her parents, Ted and Deena Puffer, founded in 1968. Monica's bi-coastal positions complement each other as RTB brings original operas emphasizing modern accessibility to new audiences, while NOA produces modern productions with a classy twist. In addition to her position as General Director, she was Stage Director for a selection of NOA's productions, including *Madame Butterfly*, which was the first anime-inspired production of this great work and *Sweeney Todd*.

Celebrated internationally as a "consummate artist" and "an unusually endearing performer" by *La Nouvelle Republique & Centre Presse*, Monica recently recorded two CDs for MSR Classics Record Labels – *Songs from Another Place* and *Long Island Songs*. *Fanfare Magazine* said her voice was an "exquisitely controlled vocal instrument she uses to delve into the hearts of texts with uncanny powers of penetration," and *Sequenza21.com* enjoyed Monica's "bright clarion voice." Her stirring stage performances have also given her world acclaim, performing in Europe and North America in recent title roles including Handel's *Alicina* for Satori Opera Company in NYC, *Annie* for Opera Shorts at Carnegie Hall, and Brunner's "Lady MacBeth" at *Livewire* in Baltimore. Recently featured in a documentary on RTB and Opera Shorts that aired on Brooklyn Cable in 2012, Monica's community involvement stretches into academia, teaching Voice at Brooklyn College. She also is a private vocal coach with professional students who have performed at New York City Opera and Metropolitan Opera, among others.

