

Mary Hegarty

Soprano Mary Hegarty's early studies at the **Cork School of Music** led to a place at the **National Opera Studio** in London and masterclasses with Sir Thomas Allen, Dame Elisabeth Schwarzkopf and Sir Peter Pears. She represented her country at the **Cardiff Singer of the World** Competition and subsequently built an impressive career throughout Europe on the operatic stage, concert platform and in regular broadcasts with **RTE** and the **BBC**.

Since making her professional debut at the **Royal Opera House**, Covent Garden, under the baton of Bernard Haitink, Mary has sung principal roles with **English National Opera, Opera North, Welsh National Opera, Opera Northern Ireland, City of Birmingham Touring Opera, Glyndebourne Festival Opera, Garsington Opera, D'Oyly Carte, Reisopera, La Monnaie, Vlaamse Opera, Adelaide Festival, Opera Zuid, Athens Festival, Bilbao Opera, Opera Theatre Company, OPERA 2005, the Dublin Grand Opera Society and R&R Musical Society**. Oratorio and concert appearances include the **BBC Proms**, many performances of *Messiah*, *Handel's Creation*, *Carmina Burana*, *Maritana*, *La Bohème* (at the RTE Proms), and the Irish premieres of Mahler's *Eighth Symphony* and Paul McCartney's *Liverpool Oratorio*.

She has graced the stages of the **Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall, Barbican, Birmingham Symphony Hall, National Concert Hall** and others, with the **RTE National Symphony Orchestra and Concert Orchestras, BBC Symphony Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra, Hallé Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia, Ulster Orchestra and the Orchestre Nationale de Belgique**.

Mary Hegarty's recordings include her solo album *A Voice is Calling*, and CD recordings of *Patience* and *Orpheus in the Underworld* with the **D'Oyly Carte** (Sony), also *Silver Tassie* (ENO) and *Carmen* (Chandos) with **Glyndebourne Opera**. Mary played Gilda in Woody Allen's movie *Matchpoint* and appeared in special BBC TV broadcasts and DVD recordings of Bernstein's *Trouble in Tahiti* and Rachel Portman's *The Little Prince*.

Since returning to live in Cork, Mary has been a lecturer in vocal studies at the **CIT Cork School of Music**; her students have performed at **English National Opera, Garsington Opera and the BBC Proms**. One of her students also featured in the final stages of last year's TV series **The Voice UK**. Mary was recently the voice and language coach for a **British Youth Opera** production of *Riders to the Sea*.

Mary was nominated for an Opera Bear Award for her portrayal of Miss Wordsworth in **Opera North's** acclaimed production of Britten's *Albert Herring*. She repeated the role this summer in a new production at **Buxton Festival Opera**. She has also cemented her status as a Cork icon with a cameo appearance alongside indie band the **Frank and Walters** at their sell-out anniversary concert!

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