

# JESSICA ABEL, SOPRANO

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## PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

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### Opera

Josephine	H.M.S. Pinafore	Victorian Lyric Opera Company, 2010
Susanna/Barbarina*	Le Nozze di Figaro	The Figaro Project, 2010
Ensemble	The Mikado	The Washington Savoyards, 2010
Despina*	Cosí fan tutte	Chesapeake Concert Opera, 2010
Dora	Dora	Peabody Chamber Opera, 2009
Susanna	Le Nozze di Figaro	BASOTI, 2008
Papagena	Die Zauberflöte	Peabody Opera Theater, 2008
Pamina	Die Zauberflöte	Peabody Opera Outreach, 2006-07
Chorus	Les contes d'Hoffman	Peabody Opera, 2007
Chorus	Susannah	FSU Opera, 2005

### Concert & Recital

Vivre Musicale Chamber Recital	March/June, 2010
<i>Pierrot lunaire</i> , Dallas Festival of Modern Music	November 7, 2009
Solo Recital	May, 2009
Solo Recital	April, 2008
UNESCO Concert	April, 2008
Solo Recital	April, 2006
Solo Recital	April, 2005
Guest Soloist, Bach Cantata No. 51	November 30, 2007
Scarlatti Christmas Cantata	December 25, 2006
Soloist, Vaughn Williams <i>Serenade To Music</i>	November, 2004
Soloist, choir, Handel <i>Messiah</i>	December, 2001, 2007

\* Denotes cover.

## EDUCATION

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**Post-graduate studies** – Peabody Conservatory, Vocal Performance, 2008 – 2009  
**Opera Studio Member** – American Institute of Musical Studies, 2009  
**Master of Music** – Peabody Conservatory, Vocal Performance & Pedagogy, 2008  
**Bachelor of Music** – Florida State University, Vocal Performance, *cum laude*, 2006  
**Certificate of Studies** – American Music Performance, Fusion Arts Exchange, 2007  
**Certificate of Excellence** – Bay Area Summer Opera Theatre Institute, 2008

## HONORS/AWARDS

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**Winner**, The Baltimore Music Club Competition, Senior Division, 2010  
**Semi-Finalist**, Meistersinger Competition, 2009  
**Scholarship**, American Institute of Musical Studies, 2009  
**Scholarship**, Peabody's Charles P. Sachs Conservatory Scholarship, 2008 – 2009  
**Award**, Phyllis Bryn-Julson Prize for 20th and 21st Century Vocal Literature, 2008  
**Scholarship**, The Douglas and Hilda Perl Goodwin Endowed Fund for Opera, 2007 – 2008  
**Scholarship**, International Fusion Arts Exchange Program – U.S. State Department, 2007  
**Grant**, Peabody Career Development Grant, 2007  
**Scholarship**, Peabody's Charles P. Sachs Conservatory Scholarship, 2006 – 2007  
**Scholarship**, The Rollins Young Artist Competition, 2002

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Jessica Abel is a young American soprano who is committed to artistry and nuance in the music she performs. She is the 2010 Senior Division winner of the Baltimore Music Club Competition. In 2010, Jessica makes her Gilbert & Sullivan debuts as Josephine in the Victorian Lyric Opera production of *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and as a cast member of *The Mikado* with the Washington Savoyards. She will cover the role of Despina in the Chesapeake Concert Opera production of *Così fan tutte*, as well as those of Susanna and Barbarina in The Figaro Project production of *Le Nozze di Figaro*. Additionally, Jessica recently became a member and soloist with the Friday Morning Music Club of Washington, D.C., and she is a frequent guest soloist at churches in the Baltimore/Washington area. Past operatic appearances include Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro* with the Bay Area Summer Opera Theatre and Papagena in the Peabody Opera production of *Die Zauberflöte*. Past recitals have included works by Handel, Schubert, Schumann, Wolf, Faure, Debussy, Poulenc, among others.

As a proponent of contemporary works, Jessica strives to program new and interesting works often, and loves to collaborate with living composers. In her recent performance of Schoenberg's *Pierrot lunaire* with Ars Nova Dallas at the Dallas Festival of Modern Music, Jessica was hailed by the Fort Worth Examiner as "perfect throughout her delivery as Pierrot...executing the Sprechstimme technique with intimate aplomb." In 2009, she performed the title role in a contemporary American opera *Dora* with the Peabody Chamber Opera and gave a recital "Early Works of Contemporary Masters" at the Peabody Conservatory. In 2008, Jessica received the Phyllis Bryn-Julson Prize for Commitment To and Performance of 20th and 21st Century Vocal Literature, following several performances of contemporary works, including the commission and premiere of the song cycle *Six Significant Landscapes*, by emerging American composer Evan Rogers. Upcoming, Jessica will perform several works with chamber ensemble Vivre Musicale in March and June of 2010, including the world premiere of *The Amber Hand* for soprano and string quartet by Zachary Wadsworth.

As a musician whose appreciation for music grew out of exposure to the arts and encouragement from community projects and performances, Jessica believes strongly in music education and outreach as a foundation for cultivating creativity, productivity, and tolerance in our society, as well as a means to foster appreciation for the arts. In 2009, Jessica became the Associate Director of Vivre Musicale, Inc., a chamber group committed to sharing music with a broader and more diverse community through outreach and collaboration with other artistic mediums. In 2007, she toured local grade schools in the Baltimore area, performing the role of Pamina in the Peabody Opera Outreach production of an abridged version of the classic opera *Die Zauberflöte*. Jessica has specialized graduate-level training as a vocal pedagogue. She runs a private studio in Baltimore, MD, and is on the faculty at the International School of Music in Bethesda, MD. She is committed to encouraging the talents of every youth to help create confident, well-rounded individuals.

Jessica holds a Master of Music in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from the Peabody Conservatory of Music, and a Bachelor of Music from the Florida State University College of Music. She currently studies with Marianna Busching and Phyllis Bryn-Julson.