



TALENTED VOCALIST AND GRADUATE STUDENT TRACY KAUFMAN PERFORMS IN VERDI'S OPERA *FALSTAFF*

Tracy Kaufman graduated magna cum laude from Boston University, where she attended on a vocal performance scholarship, with a Bachelor of Music degree in Voice Performance and Music Education, and is a first year Master of Music student at Colorado State University.

Earlier this season, Kaufman sang the title role in *The Rape of Lucretia* with Colorado State Opera Theatre, was a guest soloist with the Edison Symphony Orchestra in New Jersey, and appeared with Opera Fort Collins as Lola in *Cavalleria Rusticana* and Berta in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. She will sing Musetta in *La Boheme* with Opera Fort Collins as an Apprentice Artist in August 2008. Kaufman will play the role of Meg Page in the March 1 and March 7 performances of Verdi's *Falstaff* at CSU (performances are also on February 29, March 9, 2008). [Buy Tickets](#)

A native of Edison, New Jersey, Kaufman has sung with such companies as New Jersey Opera Theater, Light Opera of Oklahoma, New Jersey Repertory Opera, Liederkranz Opera, Amato Opera, and Natchez Opera Festival. In 2007, she added the role of Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly* to her repertoire, originated the role of Louise Crane in *Celebrating the Life of Ellabelle Davis*, a new production for New Rochelle Opera, and appeared with New Jersey Opera Theater in the title role of a children's production of *Carmen*. Other roles include Nicklausse (*Les Contes d'Hoffmann*); Cherubino (*Le Nozze di Figaro*); Siebel (*Faust*); Nancy (*Albert Herring*), Hansel (*Hansel and Gretel*); Countess Ceprano (*Rigoletto*); Gianetta (*L'Elisir d'amore*); and Mercedes (*Carmen*). Theatrical roles include: Vi Petty (*The Buddy Holly Story*, national tour); Pitti-Sing (*The Mikado*); Hodel (*Fiddler on the Roof*); Viola (*Twelfth Night*); Kathy Selden (*Singin' in the Rain*); Petra (*A Little Night Music*); and Laurie (*Oklahoma!*).

Tell us about your role in *Falstaff*. I will be singing the role of Meg Page who is a feisty supporting character and friend of Alice Ford. This production will certainly be delightful, musically and visually. The humor is so masterfully set in Verdi's writing that it will undoubtedly be lots of fun.

What do you like most about the CSU Music department? The CSU Music department has a very supportive and cooperative environment which is quite unique as far as school vocal music programs are concerned.

What are your future goals and plans? After completing the program at CSU, I hope to get connected with other opera companies in Colorado and other mid-level regional companies throughout the country. I may also give Germany a try.

Tell us about one of your most interesting and challenging roles. Suzuki (*Madama Butterfly*) was a role I recently learned and was the first Puccini role I've worked on. There is a lot more movement and activity than actual singing with this role, but it gave me the opportunity to delve into Puccini's music on a deeper level and I completely fell in love with the score. There are few operas that move me more than *Butterfly*. However, Kathy Selden in *Singin' in the Rain* will always have a special place in my heart. I would pull out the tap shoes in a heartbeat for a chance to do it again.

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