



TALENTED VOCALIST AND GRADUATE STUDENT SARAH WIGLEY PERFORMS IN BENJAMIN BRITTEN'S *THE RAPE OF LUCRETIA*

Sarah Wigley holds a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance from the University of Minnesota and is currently a Master of Music in Voice Performance candidate at Colorado State University. Wigley is a student of Assistant Professor of Voice Cynthia Vaughn and is teaching Beginning Voice for the Fall 2007 semester.

From tap-dancing in Cole Porter's *Anything Goes* to singing favorite arias in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, Sarah is well-known for her effortless cross-over abilities and insatiable love for collaboration. While residing in Minneapolis, she performed leading roles with the University of Minnesota while working professionally with regional companies such as the North Star Opera, the Mystery Cafe, the Minnesota Centennial Showboat, and the Minnesota Opera. In February 2007, Sarah had the privilege of performing in the Minnesota Opera's world premiere of *The Grapes of Wrath* by Ricky Ian Gordon and also contributed to the original cast recording of this breakthrough piece.

An Iowa native, Wigley has an extensive and dynamic background in musical theatre, performing such roles as Maria in *West Side Story*, Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls*, Ado Annie in *Oklahoma*, and Carlotta in *Phantom of the Opera*. Sarah will play the role of Lucia in Benjamin Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia* at CSU in October 2007. **Buy Tickets**

Why did you select Colorado State University for your graduate work? Colorado State University first became recognizable to me by way of the music department's Opera Theater director, Dr. Todd Queen. Dr. Queen and I spent three weeks at the Wesley-Balk Institute (Minneapolis) in 2006. Shortly after this experience, I visited CSU and felt refreshed and energized by the down-to-earth environment, filled with encouragement and individualistic support.

What do you like most about the CSU Music department? I treasure CSU's music department in its ability to praise versatility and personal growth while maintaining a complete sense of altruism amongst the students and faculty.

What are your future goals and plans? After finishing my MM in Voice Performance, I plan to audition professionally in the genres of opera, operetta, and musical-theater on a nation-wide basis. I hope to pursue a DMA in the future, but not until I have saturated myself with auditions and performance opportunities at both the regional and national levels.

Tell us about one of your most interesting and challenging roles. In premiering *The Grapes of Wrath* with the Minnesota Opera, I played several smaller roles during the course of the production which included the roles of "Okie", "Migrant Worker", "Cannery Worker", and "Cropper." This show relies heavily on ensemble work to enhance the atmospheric and dramatic sense of Steinbeck's novel, which led me to have over seven different costume changes during the production.

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