

## KATE TOMBAUGH, MEZZO-SOPRANO BIOGRAPHY

Mezzo-soprano Kate Tombaugh's portrayals have been described as "utterly convincing dramatically, and musically superlative" by Seen and Heard International. She most recently sang as the mezzo soloist in the Fort Worth Opera and Performance Santa Fe productions of *Brief Encounters*, a showcase of three pocket operas by living composers Jake Heggie, Mark Adamo, and Joseph Illick. Earlier in the season, Kate made her debuts with Stockton Opera as 'Hansel' in Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel* and with Orchestra Seattle in Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Five Tudor Portraits*. Next month, she will sing in the "Showboat and Showtunes" concert with the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra, featuring the music of Jerome Kern and Rodgers & Hart.



Noteworthy performances for Kate include 'Cinderella' in Rossini's *La Cenerentola* with Winter Opera St. Louis and "Fanny Price" in the American premiere of *Mansfield Park* with Indianapolis Opera, composed by Jonathan Dove. On the concert stage, she sang Beethoven's *9th Symphony* with the Paducah Symphony and Bach's *Mass in B Minor* with Chicago's Apollo Chorus. Additionally, she has portrayed the title roles in Handel's *Ariodante* and Massenet's *Cinderella*, 'Rosina' in Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*, 'Annie Oakley' in Irving Berlin's *Annie, Get your Gun*, and 'Mad Margaret' in Gilbert & Sullivan's *Ruddigore*.

Kate has been a featured soloist with the Utah Symphony, Paducah Symphony, Jackson Symphony, the Lexington Philharmonic and the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra. As a young artist, she trained with the Santa Fe Opera as an Apprentice Artist, as a Resident Artist with Utah Opera, and as a Gerdine Young Artist with Opera Theatre of St. Louis. She also sang as a Stern Fellow at the LA-based Songfest and in the Opera Studio of the A.I.M.S Festival in Graz, Austria. Kate has premiered the works of numerous living composers, and is a frequent recitalist.

She has twice won Third Place in the Central Regional Finals, hosted by NYC's Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. She made her Carnegie Hall solo debut in 2013 upon winning the Barry Alexander International Vocal Competition. Additional accolades include winning the Harold Haugh Light Opera Vocal Competition, placing second in the Nicholas Z. Loren Vocal Competition, and being awarded the "Grace Keagy Award" by the NYC-based Kurt Weill Foundation in their annual Lotte Lenya Foundation.

Kate holds a masters degree in voice from University of Cincinnati's College- Conservatory of Music (CCM), and dual undergraduate degrees in english literature and vocal performance from Illinois Wesleyan University. She is currently based in Murray, KY where her husband, Dr. Steven Weimer, is on the music faculty at Murray State University.