

Mezzo-soprano **Kirstin Chávez** is one of the most riveting and significant young artists performing today. In her 2008 debut at the Sidney Opera House with Opera Australia in her signature role as Carmen, critics called her “stunning in the lead role of Carmen, with a confident and earthy stage presence and rich powerful voice” and praised her “voice full of the requisite Bohemian fire and earthy sex appeal, a velvety mezzo in the same black and scarlet tones as her costumes ... she is disarmingly at ease in the role.”

Chávez has become one of the definitive Carmens of the day; she has performed the role in Bizet's Carmen with Oper Graz, New York City Opera, Opera Australia, Tokyo City Opera and Minnesota Opera, as well as other opera companies worldwide. Of a performance in Austria, *Opera News* called Chávez “the Carmen of a lifetime. With her dark, generous mezzo, earthy eroticism, volcanic spontaneity and smoldering charisma, Chavez has it all, including a superb command of French and a sense of humor.”

Career highlights include the title role in *Orfeo* and Sondra Finchley in Picker's *An American Tragedy* at the Metropolitan Opera, Rosina in *The Barber of Seville* with the San Diego, Santa Fe, Indianapolis and Orlando Operas and Dorabella in *Così fan Tutte* with the Orlando and Connecticut Operas. She has performed the role of Octavian in *Der Rosenkavalier* with the Florentine Opera, Cherubino in *Le Nozze di Figaro* with New York City Opera and the Opera Company of Philadelphia, Hansel in *Hansel and Gretel* with the Atlanta Opera and Jo in Adamo's *Little Women* with Opera Pacific.