

KIM MAKES HER CORK BOW IN CIT OPERA PRODUCTION OF "FIGARO"

"Emotionally true and vocally sophisticated" says Micheal Dervan from the Irish Times, and the list is long when they talk about Kim Sheehan, a young Irish soprano, with a voice "that sets the pulse racing" according to Andrew Clark of The Financial Times, complimenting her interpretation of The Queen of the Night in the Magic Flute. Kim's home professional debut will be in the role of Susanna in "The Marriage of Figaro" which will take place on January 10th, 11th & 12th in the Curtis Auditorium, CIT Cork School of Music. It's expected to be an incredible performance, with an artist that The New York Times described as simply "excellent".

Kim Sheehan is originally from Crosshaven in Co. Cork, and though young, she already has a successful career working and traveling around Europe. She has sung many of the roles in the coloratura repertoire in Germany, Switzerland and the UK and has worked with such established companies as the Royal Opera House, Zürich Opera House, Opera North, Grange Park Opera, Garsington Festival Opera, NI Opera and Wexford Festival.

Kim Sheehan excelled in her music studies and she graduated with Honours and the Gold Medal Award for Excellence from the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama. Then, she went on to receive distinction in both post-graduate diplomas in vocal studies and opera studies at the Royal College of Music's Benjamin Britten International Opera School.

That was the beginning: she has gone on to interpret many roles including Zerbinetta in Ariadne auf Naxos at Theater Winterthur in Germany praised by Der Landbote as "disarmingly honest", "utterly brilliant" and "truly star-blazing" by the Arts Desk ; The Queen of the Night in The Magic Flute at Garsington Festival Opera and Theater Rostock; Madeleine in Le Postillon de Lonjumeau with a superb interpretation that shone "like the many fires of a diamond" - The Forum Opera ; Juliette in Roméo et Juliette at Opera de Bauge; Rosina in Il barbiere di Siviglia at Bad Lauchstädt; Giulietta in I Capuleti e I Montecchi at Theater Gera & Altenburg and Gretel in Hänsel und Gretel at NI Opera.

She has received a host of excellent reviews from around Europe including her "outstanding singing." In July, 2012, Kim sang Diana in the world premiere of Jonathan Dove's ballet Diana and Actaeon at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; a part of Metamorphosis: Titian 2012, a grand collaboration between the Royal Opera, Royal Ballet and the National Gallery.

In 2009 she workshopped, and featured, in a documentary on Rufus Wainwright's new opera, Prima Donna; later on in 2011, she starred in Luc Mollinger's alternative Magic Flute film, The Music Shoot as Queen of the Night and her voice has been heard on a number of TV commercials for example for Pretty Polly, nPower and the 2009 feature, Pimp. She has sung Beatles backing vocals for Sir George Martin and folk duets with Daniel O'Donnell and lent her considerable expertise to many Opera North and Garsington workshops bringing opera to school children.