

Christine Thomas, a mezzo soprano currently based in the Baltimore-DC area, has performed everything from the motets of J.S. Bach to the melodies of Irving Berlin to the minimalism of Philip Glass.

Christine has done so many Messiahs that if you play a D major chord during the month of December, she will bolt upright from a sound sleep and sing, “Behold, a virgin shall conceive....” Her other concert work includes the Beethoven’s *Mass in C*, Prokofiev’s *Alexander Nevsky*, Duruflé’s *Requiem*, Debussy’s *La Damoiselle Elue*, the C.P.E. Bach *Magnificat*, Haydn’s *Lord Nelson Mass*, and Karl Jenkins’ *The Armed Man*. She has also performed and recorded Mark Brymer’s *The Christmas Suite* with Milwaukee Children’s Choir. In 2014, she made her NYC debut with the late Lloyd Arriola conducting “Bernstein Remembered,” a tribute concert on the 25th Anniversary of the death of Leonard Bernstein (she was the only non-NYC artist in the performance).

Ms. Thomas is frequently in demand for contemporary music, especially new compositions. She has a passion for performing and teaching music by contemporary American composers. She recently commissioned composer Garth Baxter to write *Music’s Path: Six Songs by Irish Poets*, and gave their world premiere performance in May 2023. Two of those songs were included on Baxter’s CD, *Ask of Me What the Birds Sang*, released in December 2022. She can also be heard on the recording of *Flight Box* with Present Music and *Cinq Poèmes de Tristan Tzara* with pianist Milton Peckarsky on a tribute CD produced in Bucharest, Romania.

Christine is extremely versatile, having been referred to by the Journal-Sentinel’s Elaine Schmidt as giving a “tasteful interpretation” of Sigmund Snopek’s song cycle, and one month later, by the same critic, lauded as “the wildly randy Wanda Kazlakowski” in *A Cudahy Carolers Christmas* with In Tandem Theatre. [She is unseemingly proud of the latter description.]

As an opera singer and actress, she has appeared with companies throughout the Milwaukee/Chicago and DC/Baltimore areas. She has created roles in five world premieres to date, including:

- The Woman in Red, *Dream of Valentino* (Washington Opera)
- Mary Pickersgill, *O'er the Ramparts* (Community College of Baltimore County)
- Beatrice, *Inferno*, (Windfall Theatre, Milwaukee, WI)
- Rachel Lynde, *Memoirs of Anne* (Harford Community College, Bel Air, MD)
- Bertha/Jean, *Do It Now!* (Stevenson University, Baltimore)

Other roles include Mrs. Paroo in *Music Man*, Mother Abbess in *Sound of Music*, Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, Marcellina in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, both Hansel and the Witch in *Hansel & Gretel*, and many roles in Gilbert & Sullivan operettas. Her performance as the Housekeeper in *Man of La Mancha* was honored with a WATCH award nomination.

In 2017, Ms. Thomas added the role of stage director to her accomplishments, taking the helm of *Little Women The Musical* (in which she also played Marmee), with Third Wall Productions in Baltimore, MD. She is an enthusiastic cabaret performer and was a regular at Germano's Piattini and Cabaret in Little Italy (Baltimore). She holds a master's degree in vocal performance from the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore.

In 2022, she directed the chorus for *Chess* at Third Wall Productions ("the live orchestra ... along with the Choir... blend and balance naturally to create sweeping waves of aural bliss all throughout the performance" — Theatre Bloom review 5/19/22).

A freelance soloist/cantor and chorister, Ms. Thomas sings for various congregations in the Baltimore area, following an 8-year stint at the Cathedral of Mary our Queen. She is in the professional quartet at Congregation Har Sinai/Oheb Shalom in Baltimore.

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