



Eglise Gutierrez

A rising star of the international opera world, only four years after making her professional debut as Lucia in *Lucia di Lammermoor* in Bogota, Colombia, this season she will sing the title role of *La sonnambula* at Carnegie Hall with the Opera Orchestra of New York, makes her Seattle Opera debut as Elvira in *I Puritani*, her Baltimore Symphony debut in the *Messiah*, and returns to Detroit as *La sonnambula*. Having made many important debuts in 2006-2007 season, including a recital for Tuesday Musical Club Artist Series, her return to the Teatro Verdi di Trieste as Gilda, her debut in Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with the Utah Symphony Orchestra, in spring of 2007 Miss Gutierrez was Amina in *La Sonnambula* at the Teatro Verdi di Trieste, Liu in *Turandot* with the Michigan Opera Theater, and had sensational success in the title role in a new production of *Lucia di Lammermoor* at the Savonlinna Opera Festival in Finland. Miss Gutierrez closed the season in *Carmina Burana* at the Aspen Music Festival. Future seasons bring the Cuban-American soprano to Miami as Violetta in *La traviata*, to Seattle as Violetta and Lucia, to Hamburg and Vancouver as Gilda in *Rigoletto*, and to Montreal.

She opened the 2005-2006 season at the Wexford Festival in the title role of Donizetti's *Maria di Rohan*, followed by her debut in *Turandot* as Liu at the Teatro Verdi di Trieste under the baton of Daniel Oren, and was Gilda in *Rigoletto* at the Teatro dell' Opera in Rome alongside Renato Bruson and Ramon Vargas. Miss Gutierrez returned to the stage of Carnegie Hall with the Opera Orchestra of New York in the title role of *Lakme*, on which the New York Times reported: "*I have no idea where Eglise Gutiérrez goes from here, but I cannot imagine a voice more suited to a part or a part to a voice. Ms. Gutiérrez sang the title role with pure intonation and a luxurious cushion of sound. Experiencing such softness (not to be confused with faintness) was a little like feeling high-quality cashmere. The "Bell Song" was elegant, with every hurdle gracefully cleared: Sunday's audience went wild.*" She closed the season with her debut at the Sante Fe Opera as the Fairy Godmother in Massenet's *Cendrillon*.

In the 2004-2005 season Miss Gutierrez scored a triumph the title role of a new production of *Lucia di Lammermoor* at the Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires, made her debut with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra as Gilda in *Rigoletto* under the baton of Daniel Oren, after debuting this same role with the Connecticut Grand Opera, and performing operatic galas with the Sacramento Symphony and the Johnstown Symphony, followed by the title role in *Lakmé* at Sarasota Opera. Also in the season Miss Gutierrez made her Opera Orchestra of New York debut in the role of Philine in Thomas' *Mignon* at Carnegie Hall, followed by her first solo recital debut on the main

stage of the Finnish National Opera in Helsinki. She ended the season as soprano soloist in Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* at Carnegie Hall.

A three-time recipient of the Gerda Lissner Foundation Grant and grant recipient of the Singers Development Foundation, Eglise Gutierrez has been busy collecting top prizes including First Prize in the August 2004 International Mirjam Helin Competition in Helsinki, the West Palm Beach Opera Competition, the New Jersey State Opera Competition, and the Connecticut Opera Competition. Miss Gutierrez's long list of awards and honors also includes Winner of the Montserrat Caballé International Opera Competition, First Place in the Marian Anderson Opera Competition and Second Place in the Licia Albanese Puccini Foundation Opera Competition in 2002. She won First Place in the Giargirai Bel Canto Opera Competition, Second Place in the Orlando Opera and J. Parkinson Italia Opera Competitions in 2001 and received First Prize in the Sun Coast Opera Competition in 2000.

Miss Gutierrez made her Carnegie Hall début as soprano soloist in Mozart's *Requiem* and John Rutter's *Requiem* under the baton of John Rutter in May 2004, after completing her final year at the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia. During her studies there, she performed several leading roles, among them the title role in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Amina in Bellini's *La sonnambula*, Nanetta in *Falstaff*, and Adina in *L'elisir d'amore*. Additional roles in her repertoire include Hanna Glawari in *The Merry Widow*, and the title roles in Roig's *Cecilia Valdes* and Vives' *Doña Francisquita*.

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