



Zara Barrett soprano | 2011 OPERA AWARDS

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Zara Barrett was the recipient of the following awards, scholarships, prizes and opportunities presented within the 2011 Opera Awards:

- YMF Australia Award
- Armstrong-Martin Scholarship
- Haas Foundation Award
- Editorial Resources Prize

Zara Barrett, the 2011 winner of the Opera Awards, made her operatic debut in 1993, singing the title role in *Suor Angelica* for The Queensland Conservatorium of Music. She is a three-time regional finalist in the Metropolitan Opera Awards (1993, 2000 and 2001), which has led to a number of engagements in the USA, with Pittsburgh Opera and Pittsburgh Opera Centre, where she was a member of the Young Artist's Program from 2001 to 2003, the Glimmerglass Opera in New York, and at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Ohio.

Zara originally entered the Queensland Conservatorium of Music as a French horn player, switching to singing after 12 months. She won the Opera Foundation Shell Covent Garden Award in 1995 and the following year graduated from the postgraduate course at the National Opera Studio in London. She has studied voice with Richard Miller, Anthea Moller, Kathleen Kelly, Lauran Gilley, Bonnie Koestner, David Harper, Narelle French and Norman Marschke.

In 1998 Zara was cast as Mimi in New Zealand Opera's Wellington season of *La Boheme*. During 1999 and 2000, she appeared as Masha in Richard Wargo's *The Music Shop* and as Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* for the Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio. Other international roles include Musetta in *La Boheme* and Micaëla in *Carmen*. In Australia, she has performed with Opera Queensland, State Opera of South Australia and OzOpera, with performances including the title roles in *Aida* and *Turandot*, the witch in *Hansel and Gretel* and the lead soprano in Puccini's *La Fanciulla Del West*.

Her concert repertoire includes Verdi's *Requiem*, Haydn's *Missa in tempore belli*, Mozart's *Exsultate Jubilate*, Britten's *Spring Symphony* and Strauss' *Four Last Songs*.