



## MEDIA RELEASE

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[operAwards.org.au](http://operAwards.org.au)

Lorina Gore was the recipient of the following awards, scholarships, prizes and opportunities presented within the 2010 Opera Awards:

- Youth Music Foundation Australia Inc Award (YMFA Award)
- Armstrong-Martin Scholarship
- Haas Foundation Award
- Glyndebourne Festival Prize
- Editorial Resources Prize

### Opera Awards congratulates Soprano Nicole Car

#### | 2012 OPERA AWARDS Recipient

Roland Gridiger, CEO of Music & Opera Singers Trust Ltd, is delighted to announce the 2012 Opera Awards winner — one of Australia's most outstanding young sopranos **Nicole Car**. Nicole was selected by an eminent judging panel comprising Brian Castles-Onion, Amelia Farrugia, Michael Lewis and Dr Di Bresciani.

Nicole receives the **YMFA** (Youth Music Foundation of Australia) **Award** of \$30,000; the **Armstrong-Martin Scholarship** valued at \$4,500 presented by the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust; the **Haas Award** of \$2,500 presented by Music & Opera Singers Trust Ltd; 4MBS Classic FM Award – a recording produced at the 4MBS FM Studio and the Editorial Resources Prize bringing the **total value of the Award to over \$37,000.**

The Opera Awards assist opera singers who are already fully-fledged professionals but need financial support for further study in Australia and overseas. Language tuition, vocal coaching, preparation with a specialist for a particular role and the opportunity to see opera performed in other parts of the world are all valuable aids to furthering individual careers.

Nicole will perform at the IFAC Australian Singing Competition Finals Concert in the Opera Theatre, Sydney Opera House on Thursday 25 October, when five young finalists compete for a prize pool valued at over \$200,000. The five finalists and Nicole will be accompanied by the Australian Opera & Ballet Orchestra conducted by Johannes Fritzsich with Compere Guy Noble.

Nicole has been shortlisted for the Cardiff Singer of the World competition and aims to represent Australia next June. Post competition she plans to audition for the major houses in Europe and obtain artist representation in the Northern Hemisphere.



## **Nicole Car** soprano

| **2012 OPERA AWARDS** (continued/2)

Nicole, originally from Victoria and now living in Sydney, completed her Bachelor of Music at the Victorian College of the Arts in 2007. While studying, she was the recipient of many awards including the Alice Amy McDonald Trust, the Sleath Lowrey Rotary Scholarship and the Marion Isobel Thomas Estate Award for the highest practical mark in the college.

Nicole has also participated in many youth operas with Victorian Opera - the title role in *The Snow Queen* in 2007 and Mrs Noye in their production of *Noye's Fludde* in 2006. She also performed with OzOpera in *The Beggars Opera* in 2005. After completing studies in Baroque gesture, she played the role of Pallas Athena in John Eccles' *The Judgment of Paris*, for the University of Melbourne's Opera Project.

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In 2007, Nicole Car won the Herald Sun Aria; she was also a finalist in the Australia Singing Competition where she was awarded the Symphony Australia Young Vocalist award. She made her major role debut in 2009 performing Donna Anna in Victorian Opera's *Don Giovanni* and covered *Madama Butterfly* for OzOpera.

In 2010, Nicole was a Developing Artist with Victorian Opera. She also sang the soprano solos in *Das Klagende Lied* for the Queensland Symphony Orchestra under Maestro Johannes Fritzsich and was a featured artist on ABC Classics' *Rule Britannia* with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra.

For Opera Australia in 2011, she sang Donna Anna, Mimi in *La bohème*, Micaela in *Carmen* and the Italian Singer in *Capriccio*; for the QSO, she appeared as soloist in Brahms' *Deutsches Requiem*. Her work in *Carmen* earned Nicole her first Helpmann Award nomination.

Her roles for Opera Australia in 2012 include Pamina in a new production of *The Magic Flute*, Leila in *The Pearl Fishers* and Valencienne in *The Merry Widow*. Nicole has also been engaged by the Tasmanian Symphony for their performances of Brahms' *Deutsches Requiem*.

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