

BIO

Natalia Bychkova

A compelling storyteller, soprano and actress Natalia Bychkova enjoys performing a versatile combination of operatic, art song, and musical theater repertoire. Returning to performance after a career in international public relations, she is currently pursuing a Master's degree in vocal performance from the Longy School of Music of Bard College where her primary teachers have included Carol Mastodomenico and Corrine Byrne.

Highlights of the 2022-23 season include performances of scenes from Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmelites* (Blanche) and Wolf-Ferrari's *Inquisitive Women* (Eleonora). Natalia also appeared in the world premiere of the opera Paul Richards *Mondo Novo* in the role of the Charlatan Woman at the Vienna Summer Music Festival. In the spring of 2022, she covered the principal role of Jael in Joey Contreras's musical *In Pieces*, performed in the ensemble of Libby Larsen's *Silver Fox*, while also serving as a soloist and ensemble member of the Hildegarde Ensemble.

Favorite past roles include Zerlina in *Don Giovanni* (Académie de la Roche d'Hys, France), Despina in *Così fan Tutte* and Eva in Dan Shore's *An Embarrassing Position*. As both soloist and ensemble member, Natalia participated in many memorable performances including Mozart's *Requiem* with the West Village Chorale, Holst's *The Planets* with the Greenwich Village Orchestra, and as part of the Gregorian Chant Project at St. John's in the Village.

Born and raised in Russia, Natalia's primary musical education took place at the Musical Children's School of the Arts in Krasnodar. Prior to matriculating at Longy, she completed the Certificate of Core Musical Skills at The Juilliard School's Evening Division (now Juilliard Extension), where she also took voice courses. While in New York City, she also studied in the HB Studio with a concentration in Drama Studies. Natalia additionally holds degrees and certifications from The American University and St. John's University in American Studies and Business Administration.

Natalia believes that the arts need to be accessible to all. Through partnerships with composers and interdisciplinary collaborations, she creates special events that connect communities and highlight the joy and relevance of classical music.

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