

# Natanya Sheva Washer, Lyric Soprano



“At the sound of her voice the audience is immediately charmed” (BmoreArt 2014). In roles ranging from Monteverdi to Puccini, international soprano Natanya Sheva Washer has had the pleasure of singing for renowned venues such as the Vatican and Carnegie Hall.

Natanya has appeared with Maryland Opera, Maryland Lyric Opera, Bach in Baltimore, CenterStage, Young Victorian Theater Company, Baltimore Annex Theater, Peabody Opera Theater, New Lyric Theatre, and The El Paso Opera Company. Such roles range from Poppea in Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, Pamina in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, to Pitti-Sing in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Mikado*. In February 2015, Natanya performed the role of Maria Bertram in the US premiere of Jonathan Dove's opera, *Mansfield Park*, at Baltimore's Theater Project. And in February 2016, she performed the role of Elsie Whinthrop in the World premiere of Paul Crabtree's opera, *The Ghost Train*, at the B&O Railroad Museum.

Experienced in solo recitals and oratorio, Natanya had her solo debut by the age of 15 with El Paso Symphony at the “Music Under the Stars” in front of an estimated 17,000 attendees. She later made her international soloist debut in October 2013 singing with “Britain's Got Talent” winner, Paul Potts, and the Juarez Symphony Orchestra. She has since performed as the soprano soloist for Verdi's *Requiem*, Poulenc's *Gloria*, Mozart's *Solemn Vespers*, Handel's *Judas Maccabeus*, Handel's *Messiah*, Haydn's *Creation*, and Mozart's *Exsultate Jubilate*. With the Tiffany Concert Series, her solo voice has been recorded and archived for posterity by the Maryland Historical Society as part of the official tribute to J. Spenser Hammond.

As the first female vocalist, Natanya was highlighted as the one-millionth dollar recipient of the Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Scholarship Award. Along with the award, she sang on NPR's "From the Top" as a featured soloist.

Natanya currently finds herself rooted in Baltimore's experimental theater scene. She was in the premiere cast of *The Mesmeric Revelations of Edgar Allan Poe* Spring 2015. She originated and performed the role of the “grotesquely beautiful” Virginia Poe, Edgar's wife, in which she won an award (Theater Bloom. 2015). Later, she revived her role of Virginia Poe with Submersive Productions for their 2015 season at the Maryland Historical Society. She has since continued collaborating with premier experimental theater in roles such as The Music Pioneer in the 2020 production of *See Also* premiered in the George Peabody Library, Vocal Coach/Core Ensemble for Submersive Productions 2019 performance of *Mass/Rabble* at the Baltimore War Memorial, and Maria in the world premier of Cecilia Raker's *La Llorona* with Cohesion Theater in 2018.