

Los Angeles native, **Lyric Soprano Michele Patzakis** is celebrated and in demand as a performer, director, producer, and educator. Her voice has been described as a “luscious lyric soprano” in the Boston Herald, “a powerful, vibrant soprano” in the Washington Post, and as a consummate singing-actress whose “voice resonates with an energy that she channels into the (character)..herself” in the New York Times. She made her New York operatic debut with the New York City Opera and has



performed in recital, in concert, and in over 30 leading operatic roles across the country and Europe including the Zurich Opera, Spoleto Festivals in both Italy and Charleston, N.C., the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra of Toulouse, Opera North, Caramoor, the Opera Company of Philadelphia, Central City Opera, and the Pacific Symphony. Michele made her European debut with the Theatre de la Monnaie in Brussels where she performed for many seasons and her performances were featured in European telecasts, on DVD, and world-premiere recording.

Ms. Patzakis is currently a Doctoral candidate in the USC Thornton School of music where she held a Teaching Assistantship for the past 3 years. With academic emphases in music education, vocal arts medicine and operatic stage direction, she recently directed the Thornton Chamber Opera’s production of Gilbert and Sullivan’s TRIAL BY JURY. She received a B.M. from the USC Thornton School of Music and an M.M. with Distinction in Performance from the New England Conservatory. Her training continued as a vocal fellow with the prestigious Tanglewood Music Center, and apprenticeships with the Opera Pacific Overture Company and Central City Opera. She has received many awards, including being a National Winner of the Loren L. Zachary Competition, a Regional winner of the Metropolitan Opera Auditions, winner of The Young Artist of Future Vocal Competition and a Victor Fuchs Memorial Award. Michele will be the “honored guest” for this year’s Viennese Luncheon.

Michele Patzakis

“If I cannot fly, let me sing.”- Stephen Sondheim