

SHORT BIO, JANEANNE HOUSTON

American soprano Janeanne Houston is a versatile performer, and one of the Northwest region's busiest artists. Her extensive repertoire spans the Baroque era to the present. She has worked under the batons of many fine conductors including Gerard Schwarz, James DePreist, Sidney Harth, Dean Williamson, Richard Sparks, Christophe Chagnard, and Miguel Harth-Bedoya. Concert works that she has performed many times include Carmina Burana, Messiah, Requiems of Brahms, Verdi, and Mozart, and Mozart's *Mass in C Minor*. Also at home on the opera stage, she has sung the roles of Konstanze in *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Violetta in *La Traviata*, Blanche in *Dialogues of the Carmelites* and Micaela in *Carmen*. She has recorded many of North Carolina composer Dan Locklair's songs and vocal works, and in the fall of 2006 she recorded a work titled *Lairs of Soundings* with the Slovak Radio Orchestra under Kirk Trevor for the Naxos label. A recording of world premieres by living composers titled *The Shining Place* was also released in 2006, and scheduled for 2008 a Zimbel Records release titled *Songs of the Cotton Grass* featuring music of Welsh composer Hilary Tann. Ms. Houston gave the East Coast premiere of that cycle on a New York State recital tour last October. Also in October, she soloed in the premiere of Judith Lang Zaimont's *Remembrance* with Portland Symphonic Choir. Other recordings include *So Great a Joy* (2001), *Living Mysteries* (2002), *The Chamber Music of Dan Locklair* (Albany 2004), and *So Much Beauty* (2004). The Seattle Times has called her singing "radiant-voiced" and Gramophone, "unfailingly responsive and dedicated." The Journal of Singing raves "a flawless sense of style." Upcoming performances this year include the role of the Contessa Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro* with Helena Symphony, Brahms' *A German Requiem* with Bremerton Symphony, and a return engagement to the Messiah Festival of Music and Art in Kansas. The managing and founding member of Northwest Artists and the recording label Elmgrove Productions; she has been a member of the voice faculty at Pacific Lutheran University since 1989.