

Monika Mazanka

LYRICO-SPINTO SOPRANO



A lyric-spinto soprano with a rich timbre, Monika was born in Cameroon, and she discovered singing in her early childhood by participating in parish choirs with her family.

It was around the age of 10, when she first listened to WA Mozart's Requiem, that she fell in love with operatic singing.

She is equally at ease in Baroque and Classical music as in Jazz and Gospel.

Monika initially intended to pursue scientific studies. It was during her studies in microbiology that she decided to turn to musical studies thanks to the valuable advice of her genetics professor.

Having just completed her schooling with a prize from the Montreal Conservatory of Music and a DESS from the University of Montreal, Monika is a gem that we are just beginning to discover.

Following in the footsteps of her role models Jessye Norman and Leontyne Price, the young Monika, although very comfortable in all periods, has a particular fondness for Romantic music. She focuses on a repertoire of so-called "great voices" such as the roles of La Contessa and Donna Anna in Mozart, Liù in Puccini, as well as the music of Verdi and Richard Strauss.

At the opera, Monika has received acclaim for her performances in the roles of Countess in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*, Dido in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, and Sister Opportune in Varney's operetta *Les mousquetaires au couvent*.

Very comfortable on stage, Monika Dongmo places great importance on acting, and beyond vocal performance, conveying the emotion of each piece is essential to her. The renowned director François Racine describes her as "a sensitive, creative, and very intelligent artist."

Monika is currently under the tutelage of Adrienne Savoie, singing professor at the Montreal Conservatory of Music and the University of Montreal, as well as under the tutelage of Fernande Chiochio, singing professor, Olivier Godin, accompanist pianist at the Montreal Conservatory of Music and McGill University, Elisabeth Upchurch, accompanist pianist and director of the COC Ensemble Studio.

She holds her credo dear:

"Singing well soothes not only the soul of the listener, but also that of the singer . "