

Marie Te Hapuku

soprano

“A striking voice - unified in its pleasing color, capable of tremendous range, strong enough to easily soar over the combined sonic mass of the orchestra and chorus, and used with acute intelligence. Her blend with the other soloists was admirable, and her sense of the dramatic in her solos was unerring.” *VERDI REQUIEM with Syracuse Symphony - The Post-Standard*

New Zealand Maori soprano Marie Te Hapuku joined the Metropolitan Opera artist roster in 2010 as an immediate cover for Lina in Verdi's *STIFFELIO*. Hailed by the Sarasota Herald-Tribune as "the perfect Verdi heroine, richly musical and emotionally touching", she is completely at ease with the vocal demands of Verdi. Her roles also include Aida, Leonora (*IL TROVATORE*), and Amelia (*UN BALLO IN MASCHERA*), as well as Tosca, Fiordiligi (*COSÌ FAN TUTTE*), Donna Anna and Donna Elvira (*DON GIOVANNI*). This season also includes a return to her highly-praised roles as Abigaille in *NABUCCO* (Verdi) in Tokyo, and Leonora in *IL TROVATORE* (Verdi) with Intermountain Opera, as well as a repeat performance in Washington D.C for the ANZAC Memorial Services at the National Cathedral. Loved by audiences and the press alike, Australia's Opera~Opera Magazine declared her "possessed of a rich voice with just a hint of steel behind it, and blessed by a personality that communicates effortlessly across the footlights".

Recognized as "the sort of voice that the orchestra loves, fitting into its texture with an easy warmth" by Opera News, Ms. Te Hapuku regularly appears on the symphony stage. Concert performances include her European debut with Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona in a program featuring the works of Victorien Sardou, Verdi's *REQUIEM* with the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, Knoxville Symphony, New Hampshire Music Festival, and American West Symphony, Beethoven's *NINTH SYMPHONY* with the Brooklyn Symphony Orchestra and the San Jose Symphony, and Fiordiligi in *COSÌ FAN TUTTE* with the Brooklyn Philharmonic. She especially enjoys sharing her Polynesian background in special concerts featuring the rich music of her Maori heritage.

Born in Gisborne, Marie Te Hapuku is a direct descendent of paramount Maori chief, Te Hapuku Ngai Te Whatuiapiti. She holds dual citizenship in New Zealand and the United States, and resides in New York City.