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## ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

### Raphaëlle Paquette, soprano



Following several years of training in classical singing, piano and ballet, the flamboyant and audacious coloratura soprano **Raphaëlle Paquette** has developed a refined mastery of the repertoire for lyric heroines such as Marie in Donizetti's «*La Fille du Régiment*» and Olympia in Offenbach's «*The Tales of Hoffmann*» which she performed at Opéra Théâtre de Rimouski, Violetta in Verdi's «*La Traviata*», Rosina in Rossini's «*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*» and «*Armida*» in which her Toronto appearance in the title role was qualified by the reviewer as ... 'breathhtaking'.

Her repertoire includes the following roles: Marguerite de Valois in «*Les Huguenots*» performed with Opera in Concert in Toronto, Oscar in «*Un ballo in maschera*» at Opéra de Québec, Nella in «*Gianni Schicchi*» at Opéra de Montréal, Adele in «*Die Fledermaus*» at the Vermont International Opera Festival, Frasquita in «*Carmen*», Missia and Nadia in «*The Merry Widow*» and the Fairy in Viardot's «*Cendrillon*».

From 2004 - 2010, Raphaëlle is the embodiment of Cristal in the operatic version of Luc Plamondon's rock opera «*Starmania*» which was presented at Opéra de Montréal, Opéra de Québec during the Québec Summer Music Festival and the production was also presented on tour in Asia and Europe.

Recently she presented her new show «*R*» on tour throughout Quebec and created the refreshing and glittering duo **Cheek 2 Cheek** with guitar virtuoso Francis Tétu.

Raphaëlle is a regularly invited guest soloist in repertoire which includes: Canteloube's *Chants d'Auvergne* with the Orchestre Métropolitain du Grand Montréal conducted by Yannick Nézet Séguin, Faure's *Requiem*, Mozart's *Coronation Mass* and *Exultate Jubilate*, Handel's *Messiah*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, A. Honegger's *King David*, C. Orff's *Carmina Burana*, T. Dubois's *Seven Last Words of Christ* conducted by Maestro Lavigne, St-Saëns *Christmas Oratorio*, Rossini's «*Stabat Mater*» with the Orchestre de Chambre des Seigneuries and numerous recitals, opera, Viennese and Broadway music concerts around Canada, Europe and Tunisia. She has performed with several orchestras such as the Sherbrooke Symphony Orchestra, Longueuil Symphony Orchestra, the Lanaudière Sinfonia Orchestra conducted by Maestro Laforest, and many more.

Raphaëlle is a winner of numerous prizes such as a Scholarship from the Jacqueline Desmarais Foundation and the Music and Youth Canada Foundation, the French Music of Canada competition, the Jeunes Ambassadeurs Lyriques competition and the Canadian final of the prestigious Altamura/Caruso International Voice Competition (2011).