

Courtenay Budd

Courtenay Budd's soprano, praised as "a voice for connoisseurs," has been heard with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the National Symphony, and repeatedly at Carnegie Hall, Spoleto USA, and the Grand Teton and Bard Music Festivals. The recipient of a 2001 Sullivan Award, Ms. Budd won First Prize in the 2001 Young Concert Artists International Auditions, leading to acclaimed recital debuts at Washington, DC's Kennedy Center, Boston's Gardner Museum, and New York's 92nd Street Y, prompting Darrell Rosenbluth of New York Concert Review to applaud: "Ms. Budd effortlessly took New York; the East Coast is secured."

Critic Wes Blomster calls Courtenay Budd "one of the fastest-rising stars on the American opera stage." A 1998 Metropolitan Opera National Finalist, her operatic performances include *Ilia* in *Idomeneo* at Alice Tully Hall, *Baby Doe*, *Zerbinetta*, *Zerlina*, *Pamina*, *Amy* in *Little Women*, *Laurie* in the *Tender Land*, and *Marie* in *The Daughter of the Regiment*, with such companies as Central City Opera, Opera Omaha, Atlanta Opera, and the Colorado and Charleston Symphonies.

Courtenay Budd is a favorite of audiences and critics at the Spoleto Festival U.S.A., where she has appeared in orchestral concerts and has been a regular on the Dock Street Chamber Music Series, appearing alongside her mentor and collaborator of choice, pianist Charles Wadsworth. The 2002 Festival featured Ms. Budd in the world premier of Osvaldo Golijov's *Tenebrae*, performed to critical acclaim with Todd Palmer and the St. Lawrence Quartet.

Ms. Budd's chamber music performances include Schönberg's *String Quartet #2, I Hear an Army* by David Del Tredici, recitals nationwide, and Rachmaninoff songs with pianist Ruth Laredo at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. She has collaborated with symphony orchestras across the United States in the Requiems of Brahms and Mozart, Barber's *Knoxville, Summer of 1915*, Mozart's *Mass in C Minor*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Respighi's *Laud to the Nativity*, Rachmaninoff's *The Bells*, Strauss' *Brentanolieder*, Villa Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras*, Beethoven's *Symphony #9*, Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Haydn's *Creation*.

In the 2006/07 season she returned to Spoleto USA and appeared in her debut with the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Barber's *Knoxville, Summer of 1914* and Mahler's *Symphony #4* with the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony, opera concerts with the Symphony of the Americas, and concerts with the Missoula Symphony and the Southeastern Festival of Song.

Budd's own CD *Sleep is Behind the Door: Lullabies for Disaster Relief* was named "Lullaby Album of the year" by CDBaby.com. Featuring several prominent artists including Sylvia McNair, the CD benefits survivors of natural disasters. She also appears on the VMS recording *Korngold's Hollywood Songbook* with baritone Steven Kimbrough and pianist Dalton Baldwin.

A Georgia native, Courtenay Budd was honored with the 2004 Distinguished Young Alumnus Award from and the University of the South in Sewanee, TN. She also holds a masters degree from Westminster Choir College and now resides in New York's Hudson Valley.