

Kate Carver

vocal coach - piano accompanist

Long Biography - 663 words

Kate Carver's innate musicality, solid background in operatic repertoire, and excellent ears have led to her being one of the most sought after vocal coaches and accompanists in Toronto. She is highly in demand as a private coach to many of this country's most highly acclaimed professional singers, as well as recent graduates of Young Artist programs and universities.

A bilingual Ottawa native, Kate attended Montreal's McGill University earning both her Bachelors and Masters Degrees, studying piano with Luba Zuk and Dale Bartlett. It was here where she first developed a passion for working with singers, and an interest in languages, studying German. She played for students in the studios of Lucille Evans, Bernard Turgeon, Bill Neill Winston Purdy and Jan Simons, and came under the great and important influence of coaches Michael McMahon and Dixie Ross-Neill, and of conductor Timothy Vernon.

Upon graduation Kate was invited by Lucille and Robert Evans to join the music staff of the summer opera program in Urbania, Italy. Along with coaching and performing, she quickly developed a proficiency in Italian which she maintains to this day.

From Italy, Kate settled in London England and soon became very involved in that city's musical life. She attended the Britten Pears School where she studied with Master Coaches Martin Isepp and Graham Johnson, and where she was asked to join the staff in her last year in Britain. Kate worked as an accompanist at both the Royal Academy of Music and the Guildhall School of Music & Drama. She attended the Guildhall on full scholarship and stipend to receive her Repetiteur/Vocal Coaching Certificate. She worked as a coach and repetiteur for the British Youth Opera, University College London Opera, as well as the Broomhill Opera. While in England she was invited to join Canada's Banff Centre for the Performing Arts music staff. Finally she joined the prestigious National Opera Studio on a full bursary from the Friends of Covent Garden as the apprentice repetiteur and coach, continuing her study with Martin Isepp.

After winning a place in the Canadian Opera Company's Ensemble Studio in 1998 she returned to Canada. Her association with the COC continued for over a decade as a member of the Music Staff. As such she had the responsibility of preparing members of the Ensemble Studio in their roles for both

mainstage and Ensemble productions. She played rehearsals for mainstage productions under the baton of many prominent and demanding conductors. She performed duties backstage including conducting, playing and sound effects. She was responsible for playing for chorus music rehearsals, as well as preparing and performing many recital programs with the members of the Ensemble. In 2000, Kate Carver was asked by Richard Bradshaw to act as Interim Head of the Ensemble Studio. She has been a coach and repetiteur with the University of Toronto's Opera Division since 1999, during which time her passion and dedication to working with students has solidified. At the Opera School she has had the opportunity to act as Music Director on a number of occasions, as well as the responsibility of coaching the students in a wide variety of operatic repertoire including preparing their roles for Opera School productions.

Kate has been appointed Music Director of several Essential Opera productions since being its first Music Director at its inception in 2011.

Kate Carver has acted as Principle Coach and pianist for Opera York, a company dedicated to providing opportunities to young professionals and recent graduates. With Opera York, she has been responsible for musical preparation, diction, as well as preparing and performing recitatives. She was invited by Marlina Malas to be on Music Staff for the Chautauqua Institution School of Music where she worked closely with prominent coaches and teachers, coaching and performing full operas and recital programs. She has been a member of Music Staff at l'Université de Montreal in the opera program headed by Robin Wheeler. Kate has played for masterclasses at the COC, the Opera School, and elsewhere.