

# YAYRA SÁNCHEZ

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[www.yayrasanchez.com](http://www.yayrasanchez.com) [yayrasanchezsoprano@gmail.com](mailto:yayrasanchezsoprano@gmail.com)

787.642.4241

Puerto Rican soprano Yayra Sánchez, is an active performer of concerts and operas ranging from the traditional to the contemporary. Yayra is an advocate of the Latin-American Art Song repertoire, and a proponent of contemporary vocal works as well. Over the years, she has had the opportunity to premier countless vocal works, from well-established and up-and-coming composers.

Ms. Sánchez earned a BA in Literature and Languages from the Universidad del Sagrado Corazón in Puerto Rico; and, both a BA and an MM in Vocal Performance, from The Boston Conservatory. She has sung in great stages, including the world-renowned including the world-renowned Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, CA, the Boston Symphony Hall in Boston, MA, and The Long Center for the Performing Arts in Austin, TX; also, at the Tanglewood Festival in Boston, MA.

Moreover, she is a voice teacher, the regional director and early childhood music teacher for Ladybug Music ATX and, co-creator and co-producer of the children's music project: Canciones, raíces y alas, writing original, family-friendly music, in Spanish. And, she works as a freelance translator, transcriptionist and writer.

## EXPERIENCE

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### MUSICAL EXPERIENCE

#### Teaching:

- Private Voice Teacher. Online and in-person, 2009-Present
- Regional Director & Teacher for *Ladybug Music, Austin (ATX)*. Austin, TX, 2019-Present
- Voice Teacher for *Jazz Hands for Autism*. Los Angeles, CA, 2016-2018
- Teacher & Administrative Coordinator for *Ladybug Music HQ* Los Angeles, CA, 2013-2018
- Vocal Coach for *Beyond the 4th Wall*. Boston, MA, 2012-2013

#### Language Coaching & Workshop:

- Private Spanish Language & Diction Coach, 2009-Present
- Catalan Diction Coach. *Tanglewood Festival Chorus*, 2012

- Spanish & Latin American Diction Workshop. *The Boston Conservatory*, International Repertoire Class, 2012

### **Concert Managing:**

- Artistic Director: Nova Vocal Ensemble's Recital Series, 2015-2018
- Director of Concert Series: The Boston New Music Initiative, 2012-2013
- Assistant Director of Concert Services: The Boston Conservatory, 2009-2011

### **Opera Roles:**

- Susanna - "Le Nozze di Figaro," by W. A. Mozart. *Repertory Opera Company*, 2018
- Tatiana\* - "Eugene Onegin," by P. I. Tchaikovsky. *Independent Opera Company*, 2018
- Woman - "Müller: An Opera," by Matthew Tozer (World Premiere). *Opera from Scratch*, 2017
- Cio-Cio San - "Madama Butterfly," by G. Puccini. *Los Angeles Metropolitan Opera*, 2017
- Suor Genovieffa - "Suor Angelica," by G. Puccini. *Repertory Opera Company*, 2017
- Gretel - "Hansel and Gretel," by E. Humperdinck. *Los Angeles Metropolitan Opera*, 2016-17
- Ilya - "Idomeneo," by W. A. Mozart. *Los Angeles Metropolitan Opera*, 2016
- Nella (Lauretta\*) - "Gianni Schicchi," by G. Puccini. *Repertory Opera Company*, 2016
- Pamina (Queen of the Night\*) - "Die Zauberflöte," by W. A. Mozart. *Los Angeles Metropolitan Opera*, 2016
- Sacerdotessa - "Aida," by G. Verdi. *Los Angeles Metropolitan Opera*, 2015-16
- Adele - "Die Fledermaus," by R. Strauss. Cover role for *Repertory Opera Company*, 2015. Performed full role for *Los Angeles Metropolitan Opera*, 2013-14
- Jupiter & Cupido - "Salir el amor del mundo," by Sebastián Durón. *Santa Monica College Opera Theatre*, 2015
- Tebaldo & Voce dal Cielo - "Don Carlo," by G. Verdi. *Los Angeles Metropolitan Opera*, 2015
- Oscar - "Un Ballo in Maschera," by G. Verdi. *Los Angeles Metropolitan Opera*, 2014
- Annina\* - "La Traviata," by G. Verdi. *Center Stage Opera*, 2014
- Zerlina - "Don Giovanni," by W.A. Mozart. *Los Angeles Metropolitan Opera*, 2014
- Alceste - "Admeto, re di Tessaglia," by G.F. Handel. *Bay Area Summer Opera Training Institute*, 2013
- Sister I - "An Accidental Affair," by Timothy Brown. *Hartford OperaTheater*, 2012
- Elena's Ghost - "The (unfinished) Ballad of Adam and Elena Emery," by Jacob Richman (World Premiere). Rhode Island - Private Performance, 2012
- Lucia\* - "The Rape of Lucretia," by B. Britten. *Hartford OperaTheater*, 2012
- Frasquita\* - "Carmen," by G. Bizet. *Greater Worcester Opera*, 2012

- First Witch - “Dido and Aeneas,” by H. Purcell. *Bay Area Summer Opera Training Institute*, 2011

\*Cover role

### **Solo Performances in Ensemble Works:**

- “She Speaks,” by Alice Dryden & Amy Gordon (World Premiere). *Nova Vocal Ensemble*, 2018
- “Behold the Everlasting,” arr. Jaco Wong (World Premiere). *Nova Vocal Ensemble*, 2017
- “Ninano Niliria,” arr. Jaesook Kim. *Los Angeles Korean-American Musicians Association Chorale*, 2016
- “To Touch the Sky: No. 1,” by Kevin Puts. *Nova Vocal Ensemble*, 2015
- “Lodestar,” by Dale Trumbore. *Nova Vocal Ensemble*, 2014
- “Messiah,” G. F. Handel. *San Fernando Valley Master Chorale*, 2014
- “Fantasia in C minor” (Sop. II), by L. van Beethoven. *Santiago Canyon College Choir & Orchestra*, 2015
- “A Blue True Dream of Sky,” by Judith Weir. *Nova Vocal Ensemble*, 2013
- “All Fall Down,” by Chris Arrell. *The Boston New Music Initiative*, 2012
- “La Vida Breve,” (Vendor) by Manuel de Falla. *Tanglewood Music Festival*, 2012
- “Lux aeterna,” by Timothy Davis. *The Seraphim Singers*, 2012
- “Das Zauberbuch” (Sop. II), by Mike Solomon. *The Boston New Music Initiative*, 2011

### **Other World Premieres:**

- “Alone,” by Nick Morandi, 2017
- “19 Old Poems: #2,” by Rachel Lanik Whelan, 2017
- “In Memoriam: A Three-Movement Song Cycle on 21st-Century American Tragedy,” by Amy Gordon, 2017
- “Give Me Hunger,” “Lost” & “The Road and the End,” by Jeremy Jennings, 2017
- “From Your Bright Sparkling Eyes, A Death-Bed Adieu,” Amy Gordon, 2016
- “What Only Poetry Can Do: Four Songs about Writing,” by Dale Trumbore, 2016
- *As Time Stops to Rest*: “Winking Waking Wishes Wail” & “Along the Bay,” by Amy Gordon, 2016
- “Run: 4 Short Madrigals,” Kaley Lane Eaton, 2014
- “Two Songs for Soprano & Piano,” by Logan Wright, 2011
- “City of Spindles” (cycle), by Vima Putri Pratama, 2011
- “Sonnet 18” and “Sonnet 113,” I-Yun Chung, 2010

- “Estas lágrimas tan bellas,” by Rafael Aponte-Ledée, 2009
- “Bluebells,” “Lullaby” & “Rainbow,” by Tidtaya Sinutoke, 2009
- “Absence” (cycle), by Alex Vassos, 2008

### **Ensembles:**

- Chorus Austin (Chamber Ensemble & Symphonic Chorale). Austin, TX, 2019-Present
- Nova Vocal Ensemble (soprano section leader). Los Angeles, CA, 2013-2018
- California Philharmonic Chorale. Los Angeles, CA, 2016-2017
- L.A. Korean-American Musicians Association Chorale. Los Angeles, CA, 2015-2016
- Tanglewood Festival Chorus. Boston, MA, 2009-2013
- The Seraphim Singers. Boston, MA, 2011-2013
- Greater Worcester Opera. Worcester, MA, 2010-2012

### **Masterclasses:**

- Tony Arnold 2017
- Janice Jackson 2017
- Peter Mark 2016
- Patricia Craig 2013
- John Oliver 2012
- William Bolcom 2008
- Isabel Aragón 2008

### **Other:**

- *Canciones, raíces y alas* - Co-Producer & co-writer of kid’s music in Spanish, 2017-Present
- Recording sessions, 2010-Present
- Writer of articles and reviews for online publications, 2012-2017
- Outreach performances, 2007-2017

## **ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Freelance Writer, Translator & Transcriptionist; 2005-Present
- Voice-Over Actress, 2010-Present

## **EDUCATION**

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### **EDUCATION – ACADEMIC**

- Masters of Music: Vocal Performance. The Boston Conservatory, Boston, MA: 2011
- Bachelor of Arts: Vocal Performance. The Boston Conservatory, Boston, MA: Summa Cum Laude, 2009
- Bachelor of Arts: Literature & Languages, English & Spanish. Universidad del Sagrado Corazón, Santurce, Puerto Rico: Magna Cum Laude, 2004

### **EDUCATION – VOICE & MUSIC**

#### **Vocal Training:**

- Voice Teachers - Kathryn Wright, Enid González, Judith Townsend, Shira R Thomas
- Coachings - Michael Strauss, Mercedes Musotto, Brian Farrell, Daniel Helfgot, Damien Francouer-Krzyzek, Patricia Caicedo, Janice Jackson
- Opera Workshops - Santa Monica College Opera Workshop Class, 2020-21 & 2015-16

#### **Summer Programs:**

- Opera from Scratch. Halifax, Canada, 2017
- soundSCAPE, Composition and Performance Exchange. Macagno, Italy, 2017
- Bay Area Summer Opera Training Institute. San Francisco, CA, 2013 & 2011
- Crittenden Opera Workshop. Boston, MA 2010 & Washington, DC, 2008
- Barcelona Festival of Song. Barcelona, Spain, 2008
- Italian Intensive Course, Università per Stranieri di Perugia. Perugia, Italy, 2007

#### **Acting, Movement & Dance Training**

Stage Acting, On-Camera Acting, Improv Acting, Stage Movement and Combat, Alexander Technique, Linklater, Period Dance, Jazz, Modern Dance, Salsa and Tropical Dance, Yoga

## **LANGUAGES**

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### **PROFICIENCY**

- Spanish: native
- English: advanced, fluent in spoken and written English

- Italian: intermediate conversation and reading
- French: basic conversation and reading

## **DICTION TRAINING**

English, Italian, French, German, Spanish, Catalan and Brazilian Portuguese

## **RECOGNITIONS**

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- Pi Kappa Lambda Honors, Boston Chapter, 2009

## **SKILLS**

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- Internet Browsing and Research & Social Networking
- Computer Programs (Word, Excel, Power Point, Photoshop, iMovie)
- Teamwork & Communication
- Time Management & Problem Solving

## **REFERENCES**

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### **ARTISTIC**

- Patricia Caicedo: Musicologist & Singer, [patricia.caicedo@gmail.com](mailto:patricia.caicedo@gmail.com)
- Kathryn Wright: Voice Teacher & Singer, [kathrynnma@aol.com](mailto:kathrynnma@aol.com)
- Michael Strauss: Vocal Coach & Teacher, [michaelstrauss7@gmail.com](mailto:michaelstrauss7@gmail.com)
- Lizbeth Lucca: Artistic Director for Repertory Opera Company, [lizbethlucca@gmail.com](mailto:lizbethlucca@gmail.com)
- Brian Farrell: Vocal & Musical Coach, [operapiano@aol.com](mailto:operapiano@aol.com)

### **PROFESSIONAL**

- Ms. Patricia Maertens: Owner & Artist of Ladybug Music, Inc., [patricia@ladybugmusic.com](mailto:patricia@ladybugmusic.com)
- Mr. Paul Garton; Manager at Home Row, Inc., [paul.garton@homerow.us](mailto:paul.garton@homerow.us)