

## DEBRA GILROY, SOPRANO

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Soprano Debra Gilroy brings a vibrant, powerful presence to her performances. Her colorful, warm voice has been compared to a rich cognac, creating a musical experience for audiences to savor and enjoy.

An accomplished soloist, Ms. Gilroy enjoys an active performance schedule. Recently she was cast as Mrs. Grose in Benjamin Britten's *Turn of the Screw* and also prepared the title role of *Madama Butterfly* by Giacomo Puccini for Opera Reading Project in Minneapolis, MN. Ms. Gilroy also enjoyed preparing and performing the role of Mrs. Billows from Britten's *Albert Herring* with CORO!, in Minneapolis. Other notable performances include productions of Bizet's *Carmen*, Donizetti's *La Fille du Régiment*, and Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* with Mill City Opera in Minneapolis. With the Minnesota Chorale, Debra's performances have included Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* and *Tosca*, Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, Verdi's *La Traviata*, Handel's *Messiah* and additional works with the Minnesota Orchestra.

Ms. Gilroy was the featured soprano soloist for the North American performance of Howard Goodall's *Eternal Light*, and the world premiere of Gilbert's *Poems of Innocence*. A sampling of other solo works are Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Faure's *Requiem*, and Mozart's *Requiem*. She has also prepared Brahms' *Requiem* and Verdi's *Requiem*. Ms. Gilroy is also a regular recitalist with Thursday Musical and as a faculty member at Hamline University and Minneapolis College. Her most recent program was Strauss' *Vier Letzte Lieder*.

As an educator, Ms. Gilroy serves on the voice faculty at Hamline University, Minneapolis College, and maintains a private voice studio in Minneapolis. She is a section leader with the Minnesota Chorale and a soloist and section leader for the Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church, both in Minneapolis. Other leadership roles include leading masterclasses, acting as an adjudicator for organizations such as the Schubert Club, and coaching singers of all levels. She earned her post-graduate certification in Vocal Pedagogy from the University of Minnesota and holds an MM degree and BA degree in Music Education. She currently studies with international pedagogue David Jones in New York City.

She is the founder of Raison d'être Opéra company: [www.raisondetreopera.com](http://www.raisondetreopera.com)

