

Teresa Ferrara
Soprano
Professional Bio

Praised for her “vocal control and exquisite refinement” (DC Metro Arts), soprano Teresa Ferrara is dedicated to music’s power to transcend social divides and inspire people of all ages and backgrounds. She thrives in communicating the message of music to her audiences by expressing words with power and precision, whether performing in mainstage productions or outreach opportunities in her community.

Ms. Ferrara has performed as a soloist at the Kennedy Center on the Millennium Stage and in the Terrace Theater, and her chorus work has allowed her to perform often with the National Symphony Orchestra. It has also brought her to the prestigious Strathmore Concert Hall—most recently with Maryland Lyric Opera—and to international venues in France and Cuba. As a D.C. native, she’s been honored to also perform at other notable venues, including the Library of Congress, the Supreme Court, and The Sixth & I Historic Synagogue. She has earned many awards for her singing, including the George Woodhead Prize in Voice from the Peabody Conservatory, the Award for Excellence in the Arts from the National Society of Arts and Letters, and The Washington Post Music and Dance Scholarship Award.

As a frequent artist with the IN Series opera company in Washington, D.C., Ms. Ferrara has been a featured soloist in their productions of *Viva V.E.R.D.I. - The Promised* (an eight-singer adaptation of Verdi’s Requiem) and *Figaro in Four Quartets*, in which she reprised the role of Countess Almaviva from Mozart’s *Le Nozze di Figaro*. She was slated to sing the role of Gilda in their Spring 2020 production of Verdi’s *Rigoletto* until the COVID-19 pandemic put a halt to live performances. Other notable opera credits include Mozart’s *Così fan tutte* (Despina) and *Don Giovanni* (Zerlina cover/Chorus), as well as Donizetti’s *L’Elisir d’Amore* (Giannetta) and Massenet’s *Chérubin* (L’Ensoleillad). Produced by an all-Asian artistic team, the 2022-2023 IN Series season brings the release of a film version of Bizet’s *Pearl Fishers* in which she will be singing the role of Leila. This production was recorded from the artists’ homes during the peak years of the pandemic.

Though the 2020-2021 season was a difficult year for performers, Ms. Ferrara continued singing for virtual audiences and patrons of the IN Series and Baltimore Musicales. She curated a recital in honor of women’s history month that was released as part of the Atlas Performing Arts Center’s *Atlas Arts ON AIR* series of virtual performances, which included interviews with SiriusXM Radio Host and CNN Legal Analyst Laura Coates. In May 2021, Ms. Ferrara once again gained the pleasure of performing for a live audience in a pop-up multimedia street concert, *Kept Under Glass: Unheard Women’s Voices*. This stirring collaboration of three singers, choreography, and lighting projections brought the works of rarely-heard Austrian and German women composers to the streets of Washington, D.C.

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During the 2021-2022 season, Ms. Ferrara continued to sing with various ensembles around the D.C. metro area, including Maryland Lyric Opera, Washington Master Chorale, and the Sam Bonds Chorale, a new D.C. choral group for which she also serves as President. The summer of 2022 allowed her the opportunity to perform a series of concerts in the remarkable George Peabody Library in Baltimore, MD for *Grace Notes in American History: 200 Years of Songs from the Lester Levy Sheet Music Collection*, a special exhibition curated by her good friend and colleague Sam Bessen. 2022-2023 brings new and exciting musical projects, including *Requiem* with the IN Series—which combines works by Mozart, Claude Vivier, and Lili Boulanger—and solo performances in Mendelssohn’s *Elijah* with Georgetown Chorale and Haydn’s *Creation* with the Sam Bonds Chorale.

Ms. Ferrara attended the University of Maryland School of Music (B.M.), where she was a member of the Primannum Honor Society and Sigma Alpha Iota. She completed her graduate studies at the Peabody Conservatory (M.M.) and is currently a soprano section leader at Grace Episcopal Church in Silver Spring, Maryland. Whether through opera, oratorio, or art song, Ms. Ferrara plans to continue to pursue musical endeavors that stretch the norms of classical music and seek to educate and serve the community.