

Marion Newman

**MEZZO SOPRANO**

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **MARION NEWMAN'S CAREER IS TAKING OFF**

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Marion Newman has just had two recordings released on the Naxos label this year:

- Handel's *Rinaldo*, in which she performs the role of **Goffredo**, came out in January 2006.
- Vivaldi Sacred Music was just released this May with Marion singing *Stabat Mater* and *Clarae Stellae Scintillate*. This recording was recently reviewed; "...what really won me over to the Aradia disc was the passionate and moving performance by Canadian mezzo-soprano Marion Newman in the *Stabat Mater*. As they say in the movies, worth the price of admission."

Marion has just finished recording the title role in Vivaldi's ***La Griselda*** with the Aradia ensemble, under the baton of Kevin Mallon for Naxos this September. This is a role she performed for Opera in Concert in Toronto, Canada, in January of this year.

Other performances of the past year have included solo appearances with some of Canada's leading orchestras and choirs:

- Mozart's ***Davvidde Penitente***, which was aired on CBC in the Spring, performed with Choeur Saint-Laurent to mark the final performance of highly acclaimed and well-loved conductor, Iwan Edwards.
- Bach's ***St. John Passion*** with the Kingston Symphony.
- Raminsh ***Magnificat*** with the Ottawa Choral Society.
- Several recitals, which included music by *Schumann, Mozart, Brahms, Mahler* and *Hindemith*. A recital review included the following comment: "*Marion's voice has always been a strikingly beautiful instrument - a Bordeaux rather than a Beaujolais - and her singing has always been enriched by her intelligence and musicianship.*"
- Marion toured several of the Summer Music Festivals in Ontario, with the Aradia Ensemble, including the Ottawa Chamber Music Festival and the Niagara Chamber Music Festival. The Toronto Star had this to say: "*Newman sang Vivaldi's powerful *Stabat Mater* and mini-cantata *Clarae stellae, scintillate*. She has a distinctive, dusky voice that suggests drama with every note...*"
- Marion is thrilled to be returning to Ireland to sing the role of **Rosina** in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* in October and November 2006. She is particularly excited to be returning to work with Opera 2005, since her critically acclaimed performance of **Carmen** with them last season.

- *Messiah* performances in Victoria BC and Prince George as well as London, Ontario fill up Marion's December 2006 and she will remain in BC through February to sing the role of **Third Lady** in Vancouver Opera's exciting new production of *The Magic Flute*. Of particular interest, considering Marion's cultural background, this production will incorporate West Coast First Nations themes into the story of Tamino's coming-of-age.
- In the Spring of 2007, Marion will perform a solo recital for the Women's Musical Club of Toronto, including the world premiere of a new piece by Canadian composer Barbara Croall, that has been commissioned for her by the WMCT.
- The summer of 2007 will mark Marion's first performance of the well-loved trouser role of **Cherubino** in *Le Nozze di Figaro* by Mozart. This production will take place in Sulmona, Italy in July.

On a more personal note, Marion has been delving into the lore and spirituality of her Kwagiulth, West Coast First Nations background, which has included drum making, learning her Native language, Kwakwala, and learning to create Kwagiulth designs in painted form as well as learning the art of engraving jewelry from her father, Master Carver Victor Newman.

*"With such events as the Caledonia stand-off, US sports mascot debates, the stalling by the Canadian government over their residential school apology, I've been feeling that it is more important than ever to let the world know that there are many professional First Nations people like me, with expertise, passions and pride in who we are, and what that means in today's world."*  
 – Marion Newman

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For more information, or to schedule an interview with Marion Newman, please call 416-588-9311, email [media@marionnewman.com](mailto:media@marionnewman.com) or visit [www.marionnewman.com](http://www.marionnewman.com)