

Jessica Victoria, soprano

Songstress Jessica Victoria has performed at the Vatican, at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, and with orchestras across the United States. Her solo recitals have featured music ranging from traditional spirituals and Gaelic songs to works in Catalan, Basque, Quechua and Ladino. Many of her programs tell stories through music and narrative, bringing the audience into the beauty of the experience.

In January of 2012, Jessica Victoria made her New York debut at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall as a first prize winner of the Barry Alexander International Vocal Competition. She was the 2013 winner of University of Toledo's Art Song Festival Competition and presented a recital in that year's festival. In 2014, she won second prize in the Concorso Lirico Internazionale "Jole de Maria" in Monterotondo, Italy. In 2016, Jessica was a winner of Pittsburgh Concert Society's Major Artist Auditions and a semifinalist in the Concert Artist Guild Competition. Among other performances, Jessica has appeared as soprano soloist with the Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra, with Concert Artists of Baltimore, with the New Mexico Philharmonic Orchestra, at the Archdiocese of Baltimore's 2012 Mid-Atlantic Congress, in a world premiere of Joseph Santo's *Vesperas de la Santa Cruz*, in Jordan Hall and King's Chapel in Boston, and with Maestro Angelo Zanin in Seren del Grappa, Italy. She also received the honor of singing for His Holiness John Paul II during a private audience.

In November 2011, Jessica released *Christmas Presence*, an album that communicates theological and philosophical insights through music, including some from Pope Benedict XVI's *Spe Salvi*. Jessica's latest album, *Songs of the Summer Realm*, consists of her original songs and arrangements that explore themes from the story of King Arthur of Britain. Her opera roles include the Queen of the Night in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* at The Catholic University of America and Violetta in Verdi's *La traviata* with Bel Cantanti Opera Company.

She holds a Doctorate in Musical Arts from The Catholic University of America, a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from New England Conservatory of Music, and bachelors' degrees in music and foreign languages from the University of New Mexico, where she graduated summa cum laude.

Second only to Jessica Victoria's love of performing is her love of teaching. She has taught voice in the United States, Italy, and the United Kingdom. She has taught as a guest artist at the University of New Mexico, and has given lectures on topics in music history and philosophy at New England Conservatory and Franciscan University of Steubenville. In 2010, she was invited to present her paper "Music: the Herald of Love" at a conference sponsored by the Dietrich von Hildebrand Legacy Project in collaboration with the School of Philosophy of the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome, Italy. In 2016, she was invited to present her paper "Encountering Love through Beauty: Dietrich von Hildebrand and Ludwig van Beethoven on The Nature of Love" at the 17th Annual Fall Conference of the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture at the

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University of Notre Dame. Currently, Jessica directs the voice track of the Sacred Music Program at Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Through music, Jessica Victoria promotes positive social change. Such performances include the National Anthem for the National Federation of the Blind's March for Independence at American Airlines Center in Dallas, Texas, Spanish art song and zarzuela for the Department of Justice's Hispanic Heritage Month celebration in Washington, D.C., and *Paradise Lost and Regained*, a recital of art songs and her original composition whose proceeds benefited the Good Shepherd Sisters' work toward freeing women from human trafficking in Vietnam.

Learn more about Jessica by visiting <http://www.jessicavictoria.com>, like Jessica Victoria on Facebook, or follow her on Twitter at @JVSongstress.

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