

## Biography

“clear, free flying and of exciting timbre”

“thrilling...exquisite...with gorgeous top notes.”

These are but two critic descriptions of coloratura Diane Penning's voice. Upcoming performances include an Oscar Night with the Grand Rapids Symphony and numerous piano/vocal concerts with acclaimed arranger/pianist/singer Paul Langford. Equally at home in classical repertoire and pops, Diane has performed with orchestras around the country in programs of both genres with many, including the Adrian, Arkansas, Battle Creek, Bijou and Colorado Springs Symphonies; the Dayton Philharmonic; the Dearborn, DuPage, Elgin, Elmhurst, Firelands, Grand Rapids, and Grant Park Music Festival Symphonies; the Interlochen Arts Academy; the Kalamazoo, Lafayette, Lansing, Midland, Mobile, Ocean City Pops, Pensacola, Park Ridge, Rockford, Saginaw Bay, Sheboygan, South Bend, and South West Michigan Symphonies, the Traverse Symphony and the West Michigan Symphony.

Her musical theatre credits include Cunegonde in *Candide*, Marian in *The Music Man*, Amalia in *She Loves Me*, and Maria in the concert version of *West Side Story* as well as “the grouch” in Robert Kapilow's *Green Eggs & Ham*.

Diane's work in oratorio includes David Fanshaw's African Sanctus under the baton of Jonathon Willcocks, Bach's Bm Mass and Christmas Oratorio; Beethoven's Ninth Symphony; Fauré's Requiem; Handel's Messiah; Haydn's Creation, Harmonie Messe and Lord Nelson Mass; Mozart's Requiem; Orff's Carmina Burana; Poulenc's Gloria; Rutter's Magnificat and Requiem, (the Magnificat under the baton of Sir David Willcocks); and Vaughan Williams' Dona Nobis Pacem, with such organizations as the Apollo Chorus in Chicago's Orchestra Hall and the Kalamazoo Bach Festival.

Her opera roles include Adele in *Die Fledermaus*, Frasquita in *Carmen*, Musetta in *La Bohème*, Lola in *Cavalleria Rusticana*, Pamina, Papagena and Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* and Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*.

She holds degrees in music and voice from the University of Michigan (BM) and Western Michigan University (MM in voice performance.)

Diane's professional recordings include Phantom Phantasy with the Grand Rapids Symphony; Christmas Festival with the Czek National Orchestra; Everything Under the Sun with pianist Rich Ridenour, Simply Gershwin with pianist Paul Bisaccia, and Sacred Space with composer/performer Nicholas Palmer. [www.dianepenning.com](http://www.dianepenning.com)