

## <u>Soprano Valérie Vervoort-Lawson</u>

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Belgian soprano Valerie Vervoort-Lawson studied classical singing at the Royal Conservatory in Antwerp, at the Brooklyn Conservatory of Brooklyn College in New York (with Trish McCaffrey) and at the Flanders Operastudio in Ghent (Belgium).

In May 2010 Valerie was a finalist at the International Rotary Opera Competition in Lisbon. She was 1st prize winner at the International Competition José Augusto Alegria in November 2007 in Evora, Portugal, and was a finalist at the Elardo Competition in July 2008 in Brugge, Belgium. In 2005 she was a semi-finalist at the International Singing Competition in Verviers, Belgium.

Valerie is a recipient of grants from the Flemish Government, VoicExperience, the Intermezzo Foundation and the Robus Foundation.

Valerie Vervoort-Lawson performed the roles of Elle (La Voix Humaine, Poulenc), La Prima Cercatrice, La Prima Conversa (Suor Angelica, Puccini), Laetitia (The Old Maid and the Thief, Menotti), Yvette, Lisette (La Rondine, Puccini), Peony (A Childhood Miracle, Rorem), Polly (The Three Penny Opera, Weill), Atalanta (Serse, Händel), Blondchen (Die Entführung aus dem Serail, Mozart), Pamina (Die Zauberflöte, Mozart), Noémi, Cendrillon (Cendrillon, Massenet), Claudia (Nine, Yeston), the soprano role in Candle Light, Love Story (Arne Werkman) and in Europera5 (Cage).

She also performed scenes of Sophie (Werther, Massenet), Nannetta (Falstaff, Verdi), Gretel (Hänsel und Gretel, Humperdinck), Zerlina (Don Giovanni) and Adina (l'Elisir d'Amore, Donizetti).

With the music-theater company Salomee Speelt she did several productions: "Le bel Indifférent in Transit" (2006) & "Moscow - New York" (2009, 2011). In 2008 she joined the ensemble Opernwerkstatt am Rhein in Köln. She performed the Gloria by Vivaldi with the Orchestra do Minho (2009) and appeared on television in the show "Gare à vous" by Dragone for the inauguration of the new train station by the architect Calatrava (2009, Liège, Belgium). In 2009 we heard her in many concerts during the Jewish Cultural Festival in Belgium.

She performed with the Brooklyn College orchestra, the Flemish Radio Orchestra, the Spectra Ensemble, the Charlemagne Orchestra, the Intermezzo Festival Orchestra & the Orchestra do Minho.

Valerie gave concerts in Europe, the USA, Israel, Hong Kong and Qatar. She recorded for the Spanish Television, the Portuguese Radio Antena 2, ARTE, RTBF, Exqi TV and often performed with the pianists Jill Lawson and Nicolas Callot. In chamber music we heard her with Law3on, Hommages and the Enigma Ensemble. She recorded music by the young Belgian composer Hanne Deneire, which CD was released by Beeldenstorm in November 2010.