

Vania Lizbeth Chan is a versatile artist, active in the fields of vocal performance, academia and education. She enjoys collaborating with fellow artists to create new and exciting projects that inspire and reach out to a wide ranging audience.

Vania received her Master of Music degree at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City. In the pandemic year of 2020, Vania successfully defended her doctoral dissertation, and officially graduated with a PhD in Music from York University.

She sings in a variety of styles, performing opera, operetta, early music, musical theatre, oratorio, sacred, jazz and popular music.

A lyric coloratura soprano, Vania's voice has been described as "gently shimmering" (Opera News, NY), "lovely and agile" (Karas Reviews), with "birdlike coloratura" (opera ramblings). She has been praised for her fine acting skills, acclaimed as a "first-rate comedienne" (Halifax Chronicle Herald).

Vania has performed with several prominent performance companies, ensembles and music festivals.

In Canada, she performs frequently with Toronto Operetta Theatre, Voicebox: Opera in Concert, Soundstreams, and most recently with the Toronto Consort, Confluence Concerts and City Opera Vancouver.

While living in New York City, she performed with several companies in the United States. She was also featured in Early Music America's Emerging Artists Showcase performing "Handel's Heroines" a program of opera arias by Handel, with Rezonance Baroque Ensemble in Bloomington, Indiana.

Her most recent trip to Europe was on a tour in 2022 with Soundstreams, travelling to England and Germany to perform the music of Canadian composer Claude Vivier.

Favourite career highlights include:

- Her Carnegie Hall Debut in Weill Recital Hall, claiming first prize in the Barry Alexander International Competition.
- Performing her favourite coloratura roles **Mabel** in the *Pirates of Penzance*, **Cunegonde** in *Candide*, and most recently **Eurydice** in *Orpheus in the Underworld* with Toronto Operetta Theatre.
- Winning the *City of Brandon Award* (Eckhardt-Gramatté Vocal Competition, Brandon Manitoba) for Best Interpretation of the Commissioned Song Cycle "*Involuntary Love Songs*" by Jocelyn Morlock.
- Working closely with Canadian composer Alice Ho, premiering roles in her operas including *The Light Moon* in *The Lesson of Da Ji* with Toronto Masque Theatre and *Wenli*

in *Chinatown* with City Opera Vancouver. Vania's voice can be heard on Alice Ho's recently released digital album "A Woman's Voice."

- Celebrating Glenn Gould's 90th Birthday Anniversary with the Glenn Gould Foundation at Koerner Hall, singing the music of British composer and child prodigy Alma Deutscher.
- Filming a **D'Italiano Bread** Commercial where she was featured as the *Woman with Garlic Breath* in the "Romantic Dinner" scene.

While continuing to perform, research and teach, Vania is excited to embark on new creative and collaborative projects. She recently became a co-artistic director for the annual Asian Heritage Month Concert in Toronto, working with composers Chan Ka Nin and Alice Ho. Vania is establishing a concert series in her hometown of Richmond Hill, called Moon Bloom Music, featuring live concert programs and educational outreach chats. Moon Bloom Music also has an online presence through her YouTube channel *Vania Chan Music*, where she creatively engages with her artistic colleagues, and reaches out to a growing online audience.