

# KATIE HARMAN

## *Lyric Soprano*



### ARTIST BIO

Soprano Katie Harman parlayed a historic pop culture title into a robust and multifaceted career in opera, musical theater as well as with symphony orchestras and a variety of special projects.

In 2018, Katie was honored as a Top 10 Finalist in the prestigious National Opera Association Awards, and in 2019 made her International Operatic Debut as Countess Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro* with the Prague Summer Nights Festival. Other critically acclaimed roles have included Sandman/Dew Fairy in *Hansel und Gretel* (Brava Opera Theater), Annie Oakley in *Annie Get Your Gun* (Elsinore Theatre), Emma Carew in *Jekyll & Hyde* (Stumptown Stages), Yum Yum in *The Mikado* (Obsidian Opera), Kathie in *The Student Prince* (Gold Coast Opera), Marion Paroo in *The Music Man* (The Ross Ragland Theater), Lily in *The Secret Garden* (Staged!) and Lucy in *The Telephone* (Portland Opera SummerFest). She has headlined with prestigious organizations such as the Boston Pops Orchestra, LA Philharmonic, Denver Philharmonic, Utah Symphony, Nashville Symphony, Tuscaloosa Symphony, Shreveport Symphony, Oregon Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, Newport Symphony, Eugene Symphony, Ocean City Pops, Astoria Music Festival, and Sunriver Music Festival.

Katie's frequent collaboration with artists from across genres gave rise to her popular Katie Harman & Friends concert series which feature lush arrangements by respected colleagues in a lively variety-show format. Katie also delights in guest appearances with beloved Thomas Lauderdale and Pink Martini at their exciting symphony shows, as well as with pianist Hunter Noack in his beautiful *In A Landscape: Classical Music in the Wild* series. Additionally, in 2020, Katie and brilliant collaborative pianist Christine Eggert launched an international tour of their ground-breaking classical concert series, *Facets: Classical Music Exploration of the Female Soul*, an intimate musical portrayal of a woman's moments of becoming.

*"There was an outstanding guest artist on Friday evening's performance, and that was the soprano, Katie Harman. Please notice that I called her the "soprano, Katie Harman." In the publicity for this concert, and in the program, much to do is made of the fact that Katie Harman was 2002's Miss America. There is absolutely no question that Katie Harman, through the Miss America program, has done much good for the United States and the world...but I would like to make it clear that Katie Harman is truly a musician and a singer first. I was absolutely astonished at the way she sang. She has an incredible sense of pitch, and she has the vocal production technique and ear to always be on pitch. She also has a beautiful soprano voice, and when she sings, she demonstrates the musicianship that accompanies the rest of her ability. And (are you ready for this?), she has great diction."*

- ROBIN MCNEIL, OpusColorado (2011)

In 2010, Katie's voice was featured on the small screen with a principal role as a singer in an episode of HBO's dramatic series *Big Love*, and in 2019 Katie was featured with pianist Claire Wachter in The Virtual Piano Master Course's exploration of Debussy's art songs for voice and piano.

Katie is a graduate of Portland State University and received her Masters in Music Performance from Southern Oregon University. She resides in Klamath Falls with her husband, Ret. Lt. Colonel Tim Ebner and their two children, where she owns and operates a successful music studio.

*"When Oregon's Katie Harman won the Miss America crown in 2001, it was her dramatic rendition of the opera aria 'O Mio Babbino Caro' that gave her the edge over competitors. In a flowing red gown on a vast, empty stage, she took Puccini's delicate melody and gave it just enough restrained emotion to create one of those rare moments of spine-tingling intimacy -- all the more amazing given the arena setting."*

- GRANT BUTLER, *The Oregonian* (2007)

## MISS AMERICA AFTER 9/11: “AN AMBASSADOR OF HOPE”

Crowned Miss America 2002 in the days following the horrific terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, Katie Harman's reign set her apart, as did her performance of a beloved Puccini aria to clinch the title.

Katie's official duties as Miss America also shaped her into a compassionate, service-driven woman. In the wake of 9-11 she traveled the nation 20,000 miles a month, meeting directly with rescue workers at Ground Zero and the Pentagon, family members of those lost in the attacks, military officials, the President and First Lady, government officials, and thousands upon thousands of concerned American citizens. In addition, she aimed the Miss America spotlight at supporting breast cancer patients and championing comprehensive cancer care, converging with patients, medical professionals, health care advocacy groups, pharmaceutical manufacturers, legislators, businesses, students, media entities, and many more. Her work as an advocate was featured by numerous media outlets, including The Today Show, Good Morning America, CNN with Paula Zahn, Late Night with David Letterman, People Magazine and The Washington Post, and was also honored by Fox Chase Cancer Center, University of Pennsylvania Cancer Center, Metcalf Institute of Radiation Oncology, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, and the Cancer Research Foundation of America.

In the final months of her reign, Katie joined with all 50 State Titleholders of the 2001 Miss America Pageant to author and publish a joint memoir of their experiences in competition during 9-11, as well as the incredible acts of service they witnessed throughout post 9-11

America in the year following competition. *Under the Crown* has since become a best-loved book among pageant fans. Katie and the Class of 2001's historic pageant experience was also featured on A&E Television's 2011 documentary, *When Pop Culture Saved America*.

*"Katie Harman added her style of sparkle to Friday night. The girl who helped lead the nation's spiritual recovery as Miss America in the year after 9/11 has blossomed into a mature audience-pleaser. And here she was belting out the hits with verve...superb entertainment."*

- PATRICK WEBB, *The Daily Astorian* (2010)

## **TRUE BEAUTY: SPOTLIGHTING WOMEN'S HEALTH & WHOLENESS**

Katie remains an active voice for Women's Health, as a celebrity ambassador for Providence Cancer Center, a member of the Honorary Board of Volunteers in Medicine, and a member of the Cancer Advisory Committee for Sky Lakes Medical Center. From 2001-2008 she also proudly served on the National Board of Directors for the Breast Cancer Network of Strength, and since 2003, she has also been the voice and face of Portland Rescue Mission's annual campaigns to garner aid, rehabilitation, and restoration for homeless men, women and children in the Greater Portland, Oregon Metro Area.

After becoming a mother and struggling with identity and societal pressures to conform to certain

beauty standards, Katie also made it a personal mission to demystify the concept of beauty and illuminate beauty's true purpose. From this quest, "True Beauty" was formed – Katie's encouraging, informative, empowering, and transformational speaking series for women's groups of all ages.

*"Katie's inspirational message was so charmingly delivered! I felt especially blessed and energized by what she had to say because I have been "stuck" in the ordinariness of life and my soul really needed what she provided."*

- TANYA, Diamond Tea Attendee (2010)

*"Katie was indeed a complement to our program! She is a confident, energetic speaker with a passion for the issues she presents. Our group greatly enjoyed her sweet, honorable presence and well-prepared presentation."*

- Flying Physicians Association (2004)

Bridging her concerns for women's health and wholeness, Katie has also joined safer-beauty cosmetics company Beautycounter in the fight to reform the American beauty industry's chemical, manufacturing and safety standards.

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