

PRESSQUOTES

Felicity Tomkins

SOPRANO

Bacalov *Misa Tango* / Bach Musica NZ / 2025
Cond. Rita Paczian

"Soprano Felicity Tomkins sang with gallons of voice and glowing and emotional phrases."
(Clare Martin)

"Soprano Felicity Tomkins and Baritone Andrew Conley perfectly 'assimilated' an appropriately elevated mindset to deliver excellent solo-performances of a difficult work with Latin-music-infusions with their admirable technique and strong voices."
(Rainer W. Buhmann)

Handel *Messiah* / Auckland Choral / 2024
Cond. Uwe Grodd

"Soprano Felicity Tomkins, fresh from winning not one, but two prestigious Australian competitions, flaunted her chiselled coloratura in 'Rejoice greatly,' returning to the composer's original manuscript for a special shivery flourish. Her more reflective arias, exquisitely ornamented, were a highlight of the evening."
(NZ Herald / William Dart)

The Herald Sun Aria Competition / Melbourne Opera Orchestra / 2024
Cond. Raymond Lawrence

"After Felicity Tomkins sang her first aria, 'Nun eilt herbei' from The Merry Wives of Windsor, I'm sure I was not alone in thinking that here was a complete singer. Her second aria, 'The Willow Song' and the following 'Ave Maria' from Otello confirmed that. Her voice is true, flexible and has beauty of tone, especially in softer passages. The contrasting arias displayed good expressive range, from mischievous glee to moving pathos. It was no surprise that she was awarded the Medownick First Prize."
(Classic Melbourne / Heather Leviston)

Verdi Meets Puccini / Auckland Opera Studio / 2024
Cond. Uwe Grodd / Dir. John G. Davies

"Felicity Tomkins, awarded the Sydney Eisteddfod Opera Scholarship just two months ago, mixed mana and magic as the doomed heroine. Her final death scene was shattering, especially after so many finely observed interactions with handmaiden Suzuki, another exemplary performance from Trigg."
(NZ Herald / William Dart)

Meistersingerkonzert / AIMS Graz / 2023

"Die Neuseeländerin Felicity Tomkins, die in ihren klang-. mächtigen Sopran immer wieder facettenreiche Nuancen einbaute, ersang sich den Publikumspreis."
(Walther Neumann)

Wife/Soprano 1 / The Knock / Cincinnati Opera / 2023
Cond. Stephanie Rhodes Russell / Dir. Alison Moritz

"The performers were uniformly excellent, so much so that the sense of performance disappeared immediately; instead, it became a shared human experience..."
(Opera News / Joe Law)

"A strong cast, including some who appeared in the film version of The Knock, provided convincing and well-sung portrayals. The opera centers on two wives: Joella "Jo" Jenner, performed by Mary-Hollis Hundley, and Aishah McNair, sung by Briana Elyse Hunter... Two other wives, sung by Felicity Tomkins and Erin Keesy, as well as the Commanding Officer's Wife (Stephanie Sanchez)...also sang in the rich choruses that populate this work."
(Cincinnati Business Courier / Janelle Gelfand)

"The ensemble cast of six singing actors is made up of Armando Contreras, Mary-Hollis Hundley, Briana Elyse Hunter, Stephanie Sanchez, Felicity Tomkins, and Erin Keesy. Every one of these young artists serves the music and libretto of The Knock with honest acting and straightforward vocalism, all at the service of Aleksandra Vrebalov and Deborah Brevoort's powerful music drama."
(All About the Arts / Rafael de Acha)

New Zealand Opera School / 2020-21

"It was music heaven with soprano Felicity Tomkins singing the Domine Deus, her voice strong and unforgettable yet again..."
(Whanganui Chronicle / Lin Ferguson)

"A poignant and deeply felt Ave Maria, Verdi from Felicity Tomkins plumbed the depth of emotions this piece requires and Tomkins was exquisite, her voice caressing every word."
(Whanganui Chronicle / Lin Ferguson)

"Felicity Tomkins soared through an aria from Smetana's The Bartered Bride, adding zing to top notes which were true and strong. Felicity has a strong and beautiful stage presence, together with a glorious voice. She is a singer to watch and note."
(Whanganui Chronicle / Lin Ferguson)

"Swishing onstage with style and ease was beautiful soprano Felicity Tomkins, a young singer of note already. Tomkins' demeanour is commanding and her aria L'amico Fritz by Mascagni was assured with her top notes soaring with ease and thrilling the audience."
(Whanganui Chronicle / Lin Ferguson)

University of Waikato Conservatorium of Music / 2017-19

"The presence of the three singers in this concert, Tomkins, Shaw and Phillips, lifted both choir and audience, with full-toned, resonant, impressively confident singing...when soprano Tomkins sang the single, pure, final, beatific note of the Requiem - that was spellbinding."
(Waikato Times / Sam Edwards)

"...Soprano Felicity Tomkins singing, so appropriately, Mozart's Comprendo amico [L'amerò, sarò costante] with a voice like manuka honey – priceless, and healing to boot – and an authority and confidence on stage which could give many university lecturers a lesson in presentation."
(Waikato Times / Sam Edwards)