

MEZZO-SOPRANO KATE TOMBAUGH has been praised as “utterly convincing, dramatically, and musically superlative” (*Seen and Heard International*). As the sole Midwestern finalist, Kate recently won first place in the all-mezzo edition Mildred C. Miller International Competition with Pittsburgh Festival Opera.

Upcoming this season, Kate will return as soloist in Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra’s ‘Season of Glory’ holiday concert, and also debut with the Bach Society of St. Louis, with both concerts featuring Kate in Vivaldi’s “Gloria.”

She’s had the distinct pleasure of premiering the lead mezzo role of “The Dough” in Rachel J. Peters’ *Companionship*; she debuted the role with Fort Worth Opera, and reprised in its orchestral premiere with the Virginia Arts Festival John Duffy Institute for New Opera. Last season, she sang “Naomi” in the joint production/Midwest premiere of Philip Hagemann’s *Ruth*, produced by the University of Southern Indiana, London-based Pegasus Opera, and the Evansville Philharmonic.

Kate’s one-woman show, “It Just Takes One” first premiered with Prairie Fire Theatre in fall 2013. She went on to perform it 20 more times at venues and colleges across Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, and Kentucky. After seeing the show, Nancy Menk, Director of Choral Activities at St. Mary’s College, wrote... “our students were enthralled. Kate is a fantastic performer with a gorgeous, powerful voice and the acting skills to match it.”

Kate has been a regularly featured soloist with the New Philharmonic, BEST Ensemble, Bach Collegium of Fort Wayne, Illinois Valley and the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestras. Her training includes the Santa Fe Opera Apprentice, Opera Theatre of St. Louis Gerdine Artist and Utah Opera Resident Artist programs. Additionally, Kate was a Stern Fellow with Songfest, and in the Opera Studio at AIMS in Graz, Austria. She holds a masters degree in voice-opera performance from University of Cincinnati’s College- Conservatory of Music (CCM), and dual undergraduate degrees in english literature and vocal performance from Illinois Wesleyan University.

She is the founder and Executive Director of *Poco a Poco*, an 8-year musical nonprofit based in her hometown of Streator, IL which hosts an annual Summer Music Fest every June. She’s the proud mom to two lively and musical girls. For more information, please visit:

www.katetombaugh.com and www.pocoapoco.org