

Described as a “**very expressive singer**” with a voice that has “**marvelous clarity and a bell-like quality**” (Roger Pines, Classical Singer Competition), Yunona Tabala is a Russian-American lyric coloratura based in Boston, MA. Her performance career began early when at age 15, she toured European countries as a member of the ‘Tutti’ vocal ensemble and ‘Viva’ violin ensemble as well as a featured soloist. This experience fueled her passion for performing on the road while exploring other countries and cultures. When Yunona was 16, music brought her from Saint-Petersburg, Russia to the US, where she then began her college studies. This year, she is excited to be making her **Carnegie Hall** debut as an Honorable Mention recipient of the **American Virtuoso International Music Competition**.

Yunona deeply believes in the healing power of music and in its capacity to create connections where before there used to be a misunderstanding. Because of this belief, and because of her Russian-Ukrainian background she is currently in the process of recording her debut **CD ‘Between Us’**, a project launched in response to the Russian-Ukrainian war escalation in 2022. For Yunona, it was important to be a part of a larger organization with deep social justice awareness. She is privileged to be a second-year Masters of Music in Vocal Performance student at **Longy School of Music of Bard College** as Natasha Jakoff Scholar.

This season, she is looking forward to performing the role of King Creon in **Longy’s Fall Production** presentation of *Antigone*, by James Kallembach. In her last season, Yunona has been featured in the roles of Carrie Mae (*Silver fox* by Libby Larsen) with **Longy School of Music Opera Experience** class and of Amahl (*Amahl and the Night Visitors*) with **Music On Site, Inc**, Other favorite roles include Mademoiselle Silberklang (*Der Schauspieldirektor*) a role that Ms. Tabala performed with **Schwob Opera**, as well as roles of Adina (*L’Elisir d’Amore*) and Nanetta (*Falstaff*), excerpts of which she is preparing at **Longy’s Opera Experience** studio. As an Artist in Training with the **Mass Opera Artist Training Program** at Longy School of Music, Yunona is looking forward to taking part in the Magic Flute production in Spring 2023.

As someone who is continually striving for excellence and advancement of vocal arts Yunona is humbled to have been recognized in several national and international competitions. Last year, Yunona received an honorable mention from the **Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra Competition** as well as the First Prize recipient at **Charleston International Music Competition**.

In her free time, Yunona can be found swimming, baking muffins, or playing outside with her dog, pomeranian-husky Willow.