

# INSIGNIA

A R T I S T S

## KELLY GUERRA

*Mezzo-soprano*

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Lauded as “exquisite” in the SF Chronicle for her performance as Renata in ***Cruzar la Cara de la Luna***, Peruvian-American mezzo-soprano Kelly Guerra continues to light up stages as a versatile and passionate performer. Recent work includes Carlotta in Hector Armienta’s ***Zorro*** with Opera Santa Barbara, Rosina in ***Il Barbiere di Siviglia*** with the Princeton Festival and New Jersey Light Opera, the title role in Astor Piazzolla’s ***María de Buenos Aires*** with Kentucky Opera, Ruth Bader Ginsburg in ***Scalia/Ginsburg*** with Chautauqua Opera Company and the Princeton Festival and the title role in ***Luisa Fernanda*** with Opera Williamsburg.

Kelly’s 2024-25 engagements include Jo March in Mark Adamo’s ***Little Women*** with Fort Worth Opera, the alto soloist in Handel’s ***Messiah*** with the Glacier Symphony, María in ***María de Buenos Aires*** with Madison Opera

and Mrs. Fox in ***Fantastic Mr. Fox*** with Opera Omaha.

A strikingly versatile performer, Kelly feels at home with many styles and eras of vocal music from Mozart to Héctor Lavoe. In the spring of 2022, she made her Los Angeles Philharmonic debut under the baton of John Adams in the Noon to Midnight Contemporary Festival, and she premiered Katherine Balch’s orchestral song cycle *Illuminate* with the California Symphony. Kelly was lauded as “brilliant” by the *Santa Barbara Independent* for her performance as Lupita in the mariachi opera ***Cruzar la Cara de la Luna*** with Opera Santa Barbara (2021). During the 2021-2022 season she toured in the cast of (***...Iphigenia***) by Wayne Shorter and Esperanza Spalding in the role of Iphigenia Unbound, which was noted as “beautifully sung” (Washington Post).

Guerra won first place in Santa Barbara’s Performing Arts Scholarship Foundation competition in 2018, prior to her residency as a Young Artist with the Opera Santa Barbara Chrisman Studio. Also in 2018, Kelly was a recipient of a travel grant to Germany for language study from the Max Kade Foundation while completing her DMA at UC Santa Barbara. There Guerra “created a sensation” (*BravoCalifornia*) singing the role of Cherubino in ***Le nozze di Figaro***.

As a recitalist, Guerra has been featured at the [Lucerne Festival](#), the Tanglewood Music Center, Chautauqua Symphony Chamber Music, and the [Bard Music Festival](#). Guerra has performed as a soloist with several ensembles including the Albany Symphony, Santa Barbara Symphony, Garden State Philharmonic, The Orchestra Now, Contemporaneous, Opera Parallèle and BluePrint.

A first-generation American and native of Southern California, Kelly champions Spanish-language repertoire to welcome more diverse audiences into the concert hall.

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