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CIERRA BYRD

MEZZO-SOPRANO

American mezzo-soprano, Cierra Byrd, is an alum of the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program at the Metropolitan Opera.

She made her Met debut as Bertha in Terence Blanchard's historic, Grammy Award-winning production of ***Fire Shut Up in My Bones*** and returned to the Metropolitan Opera to reprise Bertha while also joining the company for their production of ***Madama Butterfly***. Additionally, Ms. Byrd appeared at the Met as Woman of Crete in Mozart's ***Idomeneo*** and stepped in as Soeur Mathilde for the most recent run of ***Dialogues des Carmélites***. She also joined Houston Grand Opera in Jake Heggie's ***Intelligence*** and PAC NYC in Huang Ruo's ***An American Soldier***, the first opera performed at the new WTC Perelman Arts Center.



This past season, Ms. Byrd made notable debuts in three new productions: as Queen Kandake Amanirenas in ***Kandake*** with Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, in the world premiere of ***She Who Dared*** with Chicago Opera Theater, and in ***The Knock*** with Central City Opera. Upcoming highlights include performances of Honegger's ***Le roi David*** with The New York Choral Society at Lincoln Center, Handel's ***Messiah*** with the Akron Symphony Orchestra, and returning to the role of Lucinda in Heggie's ***Intelligence*** with Virginia Opera.

Notable roles and performances: Fatima in Rhiannon Giddens and Michael Abels' new opera ***Omar*** at Boston Lyric Opera (Pulitzer and Grammy decorated, Giddens most recently played for Beyonce's Cowboy Carter album and Abels is the composer for Jordan Peele's films, "Get Out" and "Us"), sang Beethoven's ***Symphony No. 9*** with The Philadelphia Orchestra under the baton of Yannick Nézet-Séguin, and ***Missa Solemnis*** with The Orchestra Now. Notably, she appeared in Mahler's ***Symphony No. 3*** with The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Marin Alsop.

Ms. Byrd is a graduate of The Ohio State University and Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University. She is now studying under the umbrella of Mark Schnaible.

Current as of November 3, 2025