

# Sarai Cole - Soprano

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Possessing a rich, powerful voice that evokes unmistakable echoes of opera greats such as Birgit Nilsson and Jessye Norman, **Sarai Cole** is an international Verdian/Wagnerian soprano and a rising star in the opera world, having won numerous awards, grants, and competitions such as the Barry Alexander International Voice Competition at **Carnegie Hall**. Sarai also has performed numerous roles such as Aida in Verdi's **AIDA**, Giorgetta in Puccini's **IL Tabarro**, Leonora in Verdi's **IL TROVATORE**, Suor Angelica in Puccini's **SUOR ANGELICA** and has prepared and covered Abigaile in Verdi's **NABUCCO** and Brünnhilde in Wagner's **SIEGFRIED**. Currently Ms. Cole is working on a solo show that will feature a staged version of Wagner's Wesendonck lieder as well as poems by women of color and will talk about the human condition of belonging. Sarai's Recital for the Wagner Society of Northern California, her Berlin Brandenburg Wagner Society stipend, as well as her Bayreuth Wagner Festival Stipendium honor, is rescheduled to 2022.

Ms. Cole has also participated in many masterclasses with many of opera's stars and star coaches including Montserrat Caballe, Sherrill Milnes, Joan Dornemann, Eric Owens, Mignon Dunn, Mark Markham, and most recently Günther Groissböck.

In addition to singing Sarai is also a very talented writer and poet and enjoys writing short stories and has had some of her poetry published. She also regularly takes different types of dance classes. During the pandemic Sarai started a podcast called *Social Takeout: small bites of social discussion* where social topics and topics of activism are discussed in a fun and funny way every week. Other projects include singing in a pop/opera crossover group, doing extra work for films, and sometimes singing background music for a German pop-star.

Ms. Cole has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Rider University in **Acting** and a Master of Music in **Opera** from Temple University.