



Beth Lytwynec

Beth Lytwynec – Mezzo-Soprano
Juggler – *Sid the Serpent*
Mezzo-Soprano Soloist – *Opera Outtakes*
Wowkle – *Girl of the Golden West*

GENERAL QUESTIONS

When's your birthday? May 29th

Where were you born? In a little village called Ilion in Upstate New York!

Where do you live now? New York City

How many siblings do you have? 2--one older brother and a younger sister.

Do you have any pets? What are their names? My parents have a toy poodle named Oliver.

Did you play any sports growing up? I played year-round soccer, basketball and track & field.

Name some of the neatest/weirdest/farthest places you've ever been? I loved going to Ireland. In a weird way, it felt like home, and seeing my grandparents enjoy themselves is a memory I will cherish.

What is the weirdest job you've ever had? One summer I pumped gas at a Marina. I met some very interesting folks as they were traveling through.

What do you do for fun other than singing? I like watching movies, walking around, and baking.

What languages do you speak? English. I dabble in Spanish and my German, French and Italian are always a work in progress.

What's your favorite...

Food: Dark chocolate is my old standby. **Least favorite:** Meat. I just don't eat it.

Movie: *The Shawshank Redemption* and *What's Eating Gilbert Grape* are both in my top ten.

TV Show? I do not watch a lot of TV, but back in the day Wonder Years was my favorite

Color: Green.

Singer(on the radio): Adele.

Opera Singer: This changes all the time, but I really like Lorraine Hunt Lieberson and Tatiana Troyanos.

Song (on the radio): *Someone Like You* by Adele

Holiday: Christmas is wonderful because I see my family.

Sports team: Syracuse Orangemen Basketball!!!

Class in school: English and History.

Book: *A Death in the Family* by James Agee

MUSICAL QUESTIONS

What did you always want to be when you grew up? A professional athlete or an actress.

How did you start loving opera? When I started to learn about it, I started to appreciate it and love it.

Did you ever see one as a kid? I saw *La bohème* in high school.

Did your mom or dad sing to you when you were a kid? My father sang me to sleep every night.

What was your favorite song s/he sang? I could choose any James Taylor song. My favorites were *Sweet Baby James*, *Sunny Skies*, and *You Can Close Your Eyes*.

Do you play any instruments? I played the clarinet for a short time and play the piano poorly.

When did you start playing? I started piano lessons at 8 years old and played clarinet in high school.

How old were you when you first knew you wanted to be a singer? I had my first public performance when I was 3 years old. I sang *Groovy Kind of Love* to my sister in the hospital when she was born.

Where did you go to school to learn about music? The Boston Conservatory.

How old were you when you performed your first role, and what was it? I was 21 when I sang my first opera roles: Mrs. Grose in Britten's *The Turn of the Screw*, Lampito in Adamo's *Lysistrata*, and Dido in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*.

What is your favorite opera? I usually fall in love with whatever I'm working on, but *Der Rosenkavalier* is my favorite right now.

What is your favorite role you've performed? I like a good challenge and playing Romeo in Bellini's *Capuleti e i Montecchi* was just that.

Have you ever met any famous singers (operatic or popular)? I just recently met Joyce DiDonato, a famous mezzo-soprano of today, and she was lovely!

TIMELINE OF YOUR LIFE:

Fell in love with music: 1988 and again in 2007

Significant performances or musical moments: In 2008 I saw my great uncle John for the last time. I sang *You Can Close Your Eyes*, a song my father used to sing to me. It was then I realized the importance of music.

A fun fact about me:

My two front teeth are fake! One was knocked out by a hockey stick and the other was kicked out in a soccer game. I am very fortunate to have a couple stand-ins in my mouth. Thank you, Mom and Dad!