

Canadian Opera Anthology

Soprano

Volume 1

Based on the research and doctoral thesis of
Dr. Stephanie Nakagawa

Editor - Allen Clark



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PREFACE

Since Joseph Quesnel wrote what many regard as Canada's first opera, *Colas et Colinette* in 1788, Canadian composers and librettists have created over four hundred operas and the list continues to grow today. The works within this collection are just a small sampling of the wonderful operas in this repertoire and it is my hope that these arias will encourage singers to further explore Canadian opera and culture.

The aim of this anthology is to make Canadian arias more easily accessible to singers and to provide them with new arias for their recitals and auditions. This publication was developed from my doctoral thesis, a *Canadian Opera Aria Anthology for Soprano*, and I am very thankful that it has been given this format to reach a wider audience. I hope that this anthology and its following volumes will inspire a greater interest and appreciation for these works so that one day these operas may become a part of the standard operatic repertoire and reach both Canadian and international stages.

Please note that in these aria adaptations, some alterations have been made to instrumental and chorus interludes for the purpose of this publication.

Dr. Stephanie Nakagawa

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Deirdre's Lament

from *Deirdre*

Music: Healey Willan
Libretto: John Coulter

(Naisi, with a gesture of impatience goes on, leaving Deirdre alone.
Desolate, she sings her lament.)

Andante (♩ = c. 65) **DEIRDRE:**

Oh, Nai-si, it is heart-grief to
me to be go-ing from our safe-ty on the love-ly shore of Kil-
cu-an, From the lit-tle ro-wan tree, our tree;

from our quiet glen_____ and the

(Hrn. I) Harp

hill of the hare,_____ To be go - ing where it is on - ly a

Harp Vln. I Vln. II Vla. + Hrn. II (stpd.)

bit - ter taste of trea - che - ry and ru - in And the si - lence_ of a

Hrns.

lone - ly grave closed in for ev - er be - tween my