

Lisa Chavez is currently a Principal Resident Artist with Opera San Jose. In this coming season Ms. Chavez will sing; Meg Page in Verdi's Falstaff, Hansel in Hansel and Gretel, Suzuki in Madama Butterfly, and Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni. She just finished performances as Federico Garcia Lorca in Golijov's Ainadamar with Opera Parallèle of San Francisco of which the San Francisco Chronicle wrote, "Mezzo-soprano Lisa Chavez took on the trouser role of Lorca with plenty of dramatic fire and vocal richness." She returned in April to sing the role of Dinah in Bernstein's Trouble in Tahiti, and Geraldine in Barber's A Hand of Bridge. In May Lisa made her debut with Opera Company of Middlebury as Larina in Eugene Onegin.

Last year she introduced 4 new roles to her repertoire. In January Ms. Chavez sang the difficult role of The Secretary with Dicapo Opera. Opera News wrote, "Lisa Chavez successfully balanced the Secretary's underlying compassion against her officious surface coldness." In March Lisa sang her first Suzuki in her debut with Shreveport Opera. May brought her to the dramatic verismo of Cavalleria Rusticana with Martha Cardona Theater in the role of Mamma Lucia. In June, she joined the successful cast of Most Happy Fella, in the role of Marie, with Dicapo Opera. In November 2008 Ms. Chavez was a finalist in the worldwide Opera Competition with Mezzo TV, and was seen performing the role of Elizabeth Proctor in Robert Ward's The Crucible in over 40 European countries. "Mezzo-soprano Lisa Chavez conveyed Elizabeth Proctor's rigidity and emotion with clear, focused sound" Opera News. She was invited to return to the festival in November 2009 to sing the role of Mrs. Bass for the European premier of Tobias Picker's dramatic work, Emmeline, televised on Mezzo TV.

This March Lisa won First Place and Audience Choice awards in the Irma M. Cooper Vocal Competition with Opera Columbus and in May placed Third in the Irene Dalis Vocal Competition in San Jose. January 2011 she received 4th place prize in the Shreveport Singer of the Year Competition. In 2010 Ms. Chavez was an encouragement recipient in the Sally and Tony Amato Scholarship Competition, as well as receiving an Encouragement Award from the Gerda Lissner Foundation in 2009 and 2011.

Lisa was a Resident Artist with Dicapo Opera (2007-2009), as well as a Young Artist with New Jersey Opera (2008-2009). Other roles during her residency with Dicapo include the title role in Carmen, Gertrude in Roméo et Juliette, Zulma in L'Italiana in Algeri, Margot in The Merry Widow, and La Maestra della Novizie in Suor Angelica. While with Dicapo Opera Ms. Chavez had the opportunity to coach and perform the works of Tobias Picker with the composer himself. In 2007 she traveled to Germany to be a part of the Festival Ensemble Stuttgart participating in the recording of the amazing War Requiem by Benjamin Britten, conducted by the renowned Helmut Rilling.

Lisa is a recent graduate of the Master's Degree Program at Manhattan School of Music. While there, she was the co-founder of the One Act Opera Company, and embodied the character of Sensuous Woman in the New York premier of Milton Granger's The Proposal, directed by Dona D. Vaughn.

Ms. Chavez is also a founding member of Opera Collective, an independent opera company making Operatic repertoire accessible to all of the New York City metro area. Ms. Chavez has sung with Opera of the Hampton's, One World Symphony, Staten Island Symphony, Brevard Music Center, Bay Area Summer Opera and Theater Institute, and Manhattan School of Music Opera Studio. Favorite roles include, Carmen, Dorabella, Octavian, Charlotte, Meg Page, Cherubino, Cupid, as well as Anita from West Side Story.

Ms. Chavez is a California Bay Area native. Born in Oakland, and attended California State University Hayward (East Bay), where she received her Bachelor of Arts in Music.