



#### **DR. ALEXA SCHLIMMER, Voice Associate**

Soprano Alexa Jackson Schlimmer made her professional debut at the age of 19 as soloist with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. Since then, her opera and oratorio roles are numerous. Her extensive operatic career has included the role of the *Erste Blume* in Wagner's *Parsifal* with James Levine conducting. She has also appeared in many productions featuring opera greats Renata Scotto, Sherrill Milnes, James Morris, Jessye Norman and Kathleen Battle. Dr. Schlimmer's artistry in the operatic genre is evidenced by her more than 30 roles ranging from *Rosina* in *The Barber of Seville*, *Fiordiligi* in *Così fan Tutte* to *Mimi* in *La Bohème* and the title role in *Suor Angelica*. Praised in *Opera News* for a production of *Mozart's The Magic Flute*, her singing was called "the most stunningly brilliant of the evening."

Not only has Dr. Schlimmer appeared with numerous opera companies and symphony orchestras in the United States, but she has performed extensively in eight foreign countries. She made her London debut as Susanna in *The Marriage of Figaro* with the prestigious Mayer-Lissman Opera Company at the Royal College of Music. She has performed many times on radio and television including a performance of Gazzaniga's *Don Giovanni* under the direction of Covent Garden's Ande Anderson and the Chicago Lyric's Lee Schaenen.

Equally at home on the recital stage, Dr. Schlimmer was one of two singers nationwide, chosen to present a solo recital at the internationally known Spoleto Festival, U.S.A. Dr. Schlimmer received a standing ovation from the capacity audience at the Spoleto concert. Since that concert, she has performed at Spoleto in 2001 and 2003. She has also had extensive experience in musical theatre and cabaret.

Dr. Schlimmer has won numerous vocal competitions including the Metropolitan Opera Auditions and the National Association of Teachers of Singing Artist's competition. A native of South Carolina, Dr. Schlimmer studied at the College Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati, The American Institute of Musical Studies (Graz, Austria) and the University of North Carolina Greensboro. In addition, she studied at the Royal College of Music, London and was a student of Sandor Konya while studying in Germany.

An active voice instructor, her students continue to win vocal competitions and scholarships at prestigious schools including Oberlin, Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, Florida State University, Indiana University, Northwestern University, Columbia University, Peabody Conservatory, New York University, and Julliard. Her students have soloed at Carnegie Hall and have sung with the Houston Grand Opera and in the prestigious Merola Program at the San Francisco Opera. Dr. Schlimmer is the Director of Vocal Studies at High Point University. Recent performances and engagements include Guest Soloist with the Raleigh Symphony on September 14, 2007 and THE Vocal Pedagogue for The Inaugural London Choral Festival in December 2007-January 2008.