

Charleene Closshey

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Performances in Rome, Italy July 2006

Closshey Invited to Renowned “Operafestival di Roma” Rome, Italy Summer 2006

Accomplished professional violinist, vocalist, commercial model, and actor, Charleene Closshey has been selected as one of only two artists from the state of Florida to attend the renowned Operafestival di Roma, in Rome, Italy, in July 2006. Hundreds of applicants representing top international talent apply for Operafestival di Roma each year. Only 50 globally are selected to attend.

The Operafestival di Roma is a non-profit educational institution that offers opportunities to musicians from all nations to study and perform opera in Italy during the summer. With language and diction coaching, all productions are sung in the original language. For detailed performance dates, visit www.operafest.com.

As she prepares for the rigors of this month-long intensive training and performance schedule, Ms. Closshey offered the Tampa Bay community a taste of what is to come on WTVT Fox 13's *What's Right with Tampa Bay* news segment, where she gave a televised interview about the upcoming Operafestival and sang the Italian art song "Vittoria, mio core".

Says Closshey, "This is an amazing opportunity and I am absolutely elated and quite humbled to be a part of such a prestigious and intense program." Ms. Closshey is scheduled to sing in all the shows slated for performance, including Franz Lehar's *Die lustige Witwe (the Merry Widow)*, G. Puccini's *Suor Angelica*, Antonio Vivaldi's *Gloria*, and in Vocal Recitals and Concerts.

Born in Plant City, FL, Ms. Closshey has been at home on the stage or in front of the camera since the age of two, performing in stage shows, national television commercials, numerous independent films, and a major motion picture (The Punisher). You might recognize her as the featured

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red-headed baby on the wrapping of Northern Bathroom Tissue from 1984-2004!

As a vocalist, Ms. Closshey studies under premier voice coaches in Florida and Los Angeles, CA, and is a sought-after vocalist who performs in a variety of Broadway-style musicals and concerts. With a distinctive vocal range, she is seamless in her ability to transition from classical to character voices, creating a memorable musical experience that delights audiences.

Through roots deep in classical training on her violin, her unique musical style emerges as an eclectic mix of jazz, rock, pop, blues, and swinging fiddle. From dual country fiddles with Charlie Daniels, to lead violinist in the nationally acclaimed show "Jammin" at Busch Gardens Tampa Bay, to Celtic fiddle for international dance troupe "Irish Thunder," and a performance tour in Italy with New York University's New Music Ensemble, Ms. Closshey unfolds a diverse violin performance quality, and has shared the stage with such artists as Josh Groban, Frank Sinatra, Jr., Ricky Skaggs, Chad Brock, Ronan Tynin, Patrick Wilson, Mannheim Steamroller, and the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. Ms. Closshey also played on Jon Secada's newly released internationally-acclaimed album, *Same Dream*. She performed as an on-air news talent for Tampa's 99.5 WQYK's morning show with Skip Mahaffey, and wide-ranging talents contributed to the holding of titles for Miss Tampa, Miss Tampa Bay, and Miss Orlando (twice). She also performs extensive print and runway modeling.

Ms. Closshey is Vice President of Ideas & Innovations, Inc., a strategic consulting and production services firm, where she specializes in events production and talent services, and is in the role of Marketing Director for the The IBEX Company, a full-service artistic production company based in Tampa, Florida.

She is a governor's appointee to the *Florida Film & Entertainment Advisory Council* (FFEAC) and currently serves on the council's Education and Membership Committees. She serves as Director of Touching Tomorrow, Inc., a foundation that awards scholarships to youth in the Tampa Bay Area.

Charleene Closshey rises to the top of Florida's Fine Arts Community as one who gives, often providing stellar professional performances for non-profit benefit concerts in-between tour, performance, and recording schedules.

Charleene can be reached at

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upcoming events, follow her performance calendar at

[www.charleeneClosshey.com](http://www.charleeneClosshey.com). ###



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