A native of St. Petersburg, Russia, **Maria Mikheyenko** performs Russian repertoire in recitals and festivals throughout the Bay Area. She has sung roles with Pocket Opera, Berkeley Opera, Capitol Opera Sacramento, Oakland Opera Theater, Bay Shore Lyric Opera, and Austrian American Mozart Academy of Salzburg. In contemporary music, she has performed a wide spectrum of roles with San Francisco Cabaret Opera, and has had the honor of premiering several roles in Lisa Prosek's operas, including Lucifer (Belfagor), an Iraq War Contractor (Trap Door), and Salai (Leonardo's Notebooks). Other premieres include John Bilotta's award-winning chamber opera, Quantum Mechanic, and Trifles (based on the novel by Pulitzer prize-winning author Susan Glaspell). With the Pacific Mozart Ensemble, Maria has had the privilege of collaborating with music legends Bobby McFerrin, Dave Brubeck, and Meredith Monk. Musical theatre credits include Hunyak in CHICAGO (Pacific Coast Repertory), Threepenny Opera (Santa Cruz Chamber Orchestra), a punk rock production of Pirates of Penzance (Berkeley Playhouse), and The Professor in Kurt Weill's Happy End. Maria is a member of The Bracebridge Dinner in Yosemite Valley, Opera Frontier, a group that crosses boundaries of traditional opera and challenges stereotypes, and Her Rebel Highness, an opera/pop trio of 18th century Princesses who sing, dance and write their own destinies. www.MariaMikheyenko.com