

PATRICE JÉGOU-OYELESE, DMA – Teaching Bio

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Dr. Patrice Jégou-Oyelese is a Boston-based Canadian ex-professional figure skater who took up singing at the suggestion of a cast-mate while she was skating in an ice show on tour in Mexico. She holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in classical vocal performance from Rutgers University - Mason Gross School of the Arts (New Jersey); a Master of Music degree from Belmont University (Nashville); and a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Calgary (Canada). Dr. Jégou-Oyelese also completed the Programme D'Apprentissage de Français Langue Seconde at Université du Québec à Chicoutimi, École de langue française et de culture Québécoise (Canada). Although Dr. Jégou-Oyelese's degrees are in classical vocal performance, she has been studying contemporary commercial vocal technique and styles in private lessons with acclaimed vocal coach Mr. Justin Stoney since 2015. She recently completed the 50-hour "Voice Teacher Training Course" through New York Vocal Coaching which is taught by Mr. Stoney and his team.

After completing her doctoral studies in 2012, Dr. Jégou-Oyelese embarked on a career in popular music and has recorded and released three albums on her record label Prairie Star Records LLC. On these projects she collaborated with some of the leading pop, jazz, big band, and gospel musicians, arrangers, producers, and engineers. These include nine-time Grammy® Award winning vocal jazz group TAKE 6, The Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra, the Andraé Crouch Singers, Táta Vega, Jorge Calandrelli, David Paich from Toto, Don Murray, and Al Schmitt. On her own imprint she released her debut album SPEAK LOW (2014), IF IT AIN'T LOVE (2019), followed by THERE'S A LIGHT which was released on August 20, 2021. In 2019 and 2020 she and her collaborators won the INDEPENDENT MUSIC AWARD for "Best A Cappella Song" for the tracks "Lover Come Back to Me" featuring Mark Kibble and Alvin Chea of TAKE 6 and "Wrap Your Troubles in Dreams" featuring TAKE 6.

Patrice's classical recording experience includes an album of art songs with famed Galician bagpipe player and pianist Cristina Pato of Yo-Yo Ma's group The Silk Road Ensemble. Recorded in 2006 in Ourense, Spain, the duo's album entitled "From Russia to Brazil: Spanish and Latin American Songs for Voice and Piano" features song cycles by Shostakovich, Braga, Ginastera, and Montsalvatge.

Dr. Jégou-Oyelese has been a voting member of The Recording Academy (GRAMMY® Awards) since 2014 and was a juror in the Classical Album of the Year (solo artist) category for the 2022 JUNO Awards through CARAS (Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences) of which she has been a member since 2014. She was a Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 GRAMMY® U Mentor. Patrice recently served as an adjudicator for the Maine Classical NATS online festival, and in March of 2022 was a symposium presenter and panelist at Simposio Internacional de Universitarias at Universidad Veracruzana in Xalapa, Mexico.

Over the years Patrice has taught at the university level and privately, and her career includes international experience as an adjudicator, master class clinician, and performer. While teaching at the University of Lethbridge (Canada), Dr. Jégou-Oyelese's duties included private voice instruction, the presentation of departmental master classes, adjudication of junior and senior

recitals and end of semester voice juries, and the presentation of studio recitals. She also taught three academic courses: Introduction to Music (Music 1000), Music in Recital (Music 3261), and Introduction to Vocal Pedagogy (Music 3850). Further, she was Director of the 2003 and 2004 Richard Miller Vocal Performance and Pedagogy Institutes. Former students of hers have gone on to graduate programs studying voice/opera at Oberlin Conservatory of Music, The University of Western Ontario, The Vancouver Academy of Music, and musical theatre study at Theatre in the Round in New York City. Some have gone on to sing professionally in German opera houses and beyond. As a voice teacher in Nashville at The Music School on Music Row and Belmont Academy, Patrice taught students interested in establishing a solid vocal technique who performed in the genres of gospel, country, bluegrass, contemporary Christian, musical theatre, singer-songwriter, rock, and classical.

Dr. Jégou-Oyelese's international experience as an adjudicator and master class clinician includes serving as a judge for the XII Concurso y Festival Internacional de Canto Lírico in Trujillo, Perú, and presenting master classes in Lima and Trujillo, Perú; Córdoba, Argentina; and Xalapa and Tampico, Mexico. As an artist she has performed in London, UK; Lima and Trujillo, Perú; Celanova, Spain; Orvieto, Italy, and in Canada and the U.S. She has been a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) since 2002, and in 2003 she was selected as a recipient of the prestigious NATS Summer Intern Teaching Scholarship and interned with Master Teacher Judith Nicosia.

Patrice is the recipient of numerous scholarships and awards including a Calgary Opera Scholarship (Canada), and a PEO Scholars Award. She has done two residencies at the Banff Center for the Performing Arts and has entered and won international singing competitions in Italy and Perú. She is a Laureate of the XIII Jeunes Ambassadeurs Lyriques, [Théâtre Lyrichoregra, Montréal] and was chosen through audition to represent Canada in Orvieto, Italy in the XII Concurso Internazionale per Cantanti Lirici Spazio Musica. Patrice was the First Place Winner of the IX Concurso y Festival Internacional de Canto Lírico in Trujillo, Perú. Some of her other career highlights include guest performances with KIRK WHALUM at the Berks Jazz Festival and TAKE 6 at the Blue Note Jazz Club in New York City.

Patrice is a retired professional figure skater, having coached in New Zealand, the US, and Canada, and having skated in an ice show on tour in Mexico for Richard Porter Productions, Las Vegas and Hermanos Fuentes-Gasca, Mexico City. She currently skates for fun and is a member of The Skating Club of Boston. Patrice is a dual citizen of Canada and The United States, and lives in the Boston area with her husband Yinka and their two rescue cats.

Please visit <https://linktr.ee/patricejegou> for links to all of Patrice's social media platforms, her artist and record label websites, and streaming links and CD Liner notes to all her recording projects.

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