**Kristine Hurst-Wajszczuk**

**Singing Bio (medium)**

Praised for the “clarity in her singing as well as rich expressiveness” (Journal of Singing), soprano Kristine Hurst-Wajszczuk has performed at Weill Recital Hall, Chapelle du Bon-Pasteur in Québec City, and the Piccolo Teatro degli Instabili in Assisi, Italy. In recital, she uses projected images and unexpected pairings of repertoire to reach into our common humanity with honesty and humor. Kristine has performed as a soloist with the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, Boulder Bach Festival, Bourbon Baroque, and the Amherst Early Music Festival.

Driven to share stories of the Holocaust depicted in music, Kristine’s commission of Lori Laitman’s song cycle The Secret Exit was released by Naxos in 2020. Conceived as a sequel to *I Never Saw Another Butterfly,* Colin Clarke of Fanfare hailed this world premiere recording “a most moving selection of songs for voice and clarinet, beautifully recorded.” She often collaborates with Birmingham Art Music Alliance (BAMA), which celebrates living composers. On the other end of the compositional spectrum, her solo CD of Dowland lute songs was released by Centaur in 2008.

Beyond performing, Kristine is Professor of Voice at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and serves as the Associate Dean of the Honors College. A noted stage director, her productions have won three top awards through the National Opera Association. She is a certified mindfulness meditation teacher and personal trainer who helps others overcome performance anxiety. Conference, conservatory, and university workshops have taken her from Las Vegas to Austria, from Philadelphia to Sweden and Hungary.