ABOUT US:

Opera duo, **ACTE II**, was suddenly launched into the national spotlight after delivering a captivating performance on NBC’s #1 summer show America’s Got Talent. The duo received a standing ovation by the celebrity judges who then selected the duo as one of 10 acts to perform live at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. Since their time on America’s Got Talent the ladies have performed to high acclaim in some of America’s largest cities.

Sopranos Olanna Goudeau (Port Arthur, TX) and Ashley Renée Watkins (New Orleans, LA) are southern belles who currently make their home in New York City. The pair first met while studying voice performance at Dillard University in New Orleans, LA. They later attended graduate school together at the University of Oklahoma where they first shared the spotlight together in an exhilarating production of Johann Strauss’ *Die Fledermaus*. Throughout their studies both Ashley Renée and Olanna received high honors in national and international vocal competitions within the United States, Europe and South America. They have also been selected as young artist by some of the classical arena’s most prestigious programs including Music Academy of the West, Taos Opera Institute, AIMS in Graz and Opera New Jersey’s Victoria J. Mastrobuono Emerging Artist Program.

In 2012, ACTE II came about after Olanna and Ashley Renée joined forces to raise money through concert work, to travel to Europe for singing opportunities. While planning their fund raising concerts they realized how much they enjoyed working together and that they could create something special together. As a result, their mission changed from funding an audition tour to creating new and exciting programming that would allow them to connect with audiences near and far.

ACTE II regularly performs throughout the United States with performances ranging from some of America’s most beloved venues to community outreach programs. ACTE II has put its mission statement “to connect with people around the globe one community at a time” into action. In the past year alone the ladies have made their Lincoln Center debut in historic Avery Fisher Hall while on tour with the American Spiritual Ensemble, performed at an NBA game as guests of the Brooklyn Nets, made their European debut in Syros, Greece at the Apollo Theater and wrapped up 2015 at the White House for a Christmas concert at the National Christmas Tree in President’s Park. Even with all of these wonderful opportunities the duo finds it very necessary to give back to the community. They have presented opera workshops at inner city schools, partnered with organizations to reach at risk teens and have fostered a wonderful relationship with New York Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital.

The afro donning duo has quickly become known for pushing the boundaries of classical music with exciting and “connected” concerts. ACTE II’s programming, which has been described as “something close to perfection”, covers the gamut of vocal music with genres ranging from art songs, opera, musical theater, jazz, spirituals, gospel and popular music. Their multi-genre or versatile repertoire continues to push them towards their goal of becoming the world’s leading classical singing ensemble and providers of entertainment, music education and inspiration.

[Click here to check out our promo video!](#)
“Using our vast multi-genre repertoire, we seek to creatively connect with people around the globe one community at a time.”

- ACTE II

Stormy Weather/Can’t Help Lovin’ dat Man
ACTE II combines these two classic numbers to create what has become an audience favorite! Pianist Gary Mitchell, Jr.

Let it Go from Disney’s Frozen
ACTE II sings this popular Disney tune as a duet. Vocals arr. by Johnie Dean

The Flower Duet – Lakme by Delibes
ACTE II rehearses an excerpt of the beautiful duet that wowed the judges and all of America on NBC’s America’s Got Talent.

Click [here](#) for rehearsal clips and more!
“Acte II absolutely stunned on Tuesday’s “America’s Got Talent,” the second week of quarterfinals.” – GossipCop

“These young ladies amazed the nation with their talent.” – Dillard University Alumni News

“Acte II’s pair may be frenemies but the moment they opened their mouths, the opera singers was just all about harmony and magic. Nobody expected the two women to sound so great, so you can just imagine the look of disbelief (yep, jaws dropping) stamped on the audience’s faces. After the performance, Howie counted himself as the latest opera fan.” – Nerdles.com
VENUES

LINCOLN CENTER – AVERY FISHER HALL

The White House – President’s Park

Apollo Theater, Syros Greece

Radio City Music Hall

The National Opera Center

Dillard University’s Lawless Chapel

Barclay’s Center Arena

Chalmette Battlefield

New Jersey Performing Arts Center

New Orleans Mint Museum