



Sonia Prina

contralto

Nowadays Sonia Prina is recognised worldwide as one of the leading contralto of her generation.

She studied at the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory in Milan where she earned degrees in trumpet and voice. In 1994 she was admitted to the Teatro alla Scala's vocal Academy for young singers and by 1997 she had begun performing operas with a special interest in Baroque repertoire.

Her rare contralto voice quickly became noticed on the international lyric scene.

Highlights of her career include: *title role* of Handel's **Rinaldo** in Glyndebourne; *Ascanio* in Mozart's **Ascanio in Alba** at the Salzburg Festival; *Clarice* in Rossini's **La Pietra di Paragone** at Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris; *title role* of Handel's **Orlando** at the Sidney Opera House; *title role* in Handel's **Rinaldo** at Teatro alla Scala in Milan; *title role* of **Tamerlano** in Munich Staatsoper.

Sonia Prina is particularly fond of Handel work and has sung these operas: *title roles* of **Giulio Cesare** in Lille and **Orlando** in Paris Théâtre des Champs Elysées with Emmanuelle Haïm and David McVicar; *Amastre* in Handel's **Serse** in San Francisco; *Bradamante* in **Alcina** at the Opéra de Paris with Spinosi and staged by Roberta Carsen; *Polinesso* in **Ariodante** under the baton of Harry Bickett in Barcelona and again in San Francisco Opera with P. Summers and staged by J. Copley; *Bertarido* in **Rodelinda** at the Barbican Center in London and Vienna Konzethaus with Alan Curtis; **Amadigi** at Teatro San Carlo in Naples with Rinaldo Alessandrini and *title role* in **Silla** in Rome Santa Cecilia with Fabio Biondi, *Title-role* in **Rinaldo** at the Zurich Opernhause; **Rinaldo** (*Goffredo*) at the Lyric Opera of Chicago;

Title-role in **Giulio Cesare** in Ravenna, Ferrara and Modena with Ottavio Dantone and in Opéra Bastille with Emmanuelle Haïm;

In the Italian traditional opera repertoire she debuted at only 23 years old, in Teatro alla scala as *Rosina* in **Barbiere di Siviglia** with R. Chailly and Juan Diego Florez as Almaviva; more recently she sang *Smeton* in **Anna Bolena** at Teatro Liceu in Barcelona with Editha Gruberova and Elina Garanca; *Isabella* in **Italiana in Algeri** in Teatro Regio in Torino and *Clarice* in **La Pietra del Paragone** in Paris Théâtre du Châtelet with J.C. Spinosi and staged by P. Sorin/B. Corsetti.

Other noteworthy performances have been in Monteverdi operas in the role of *Ottone* in **L'Incoronazione di Poppea** and *Penelope* in **Il Ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria** with Ottavio Dantone and *Messaggera* and *Speranza* in **Orfeo** with William Christie in Madrid Teatro Real.

Under the baton of Jordi Savall she sang in Vivaldi's **Farnace** in Madrid staged by Emilio Sagi and in **La Senna Festeggiante** in Bordeaux.

She performs in recitals all over Europe, in South America and Japan, with important baroque orchestras such as Accademia Bizantina, Il Giardino Armonico, Le Concert d'Astrée, Kammerorchesterbasel, Ensemble Matheus etc.

Her most important recordings include: Handel's **Il Trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno** and **La Resurrezione** with E. Haim (Virgin); **La Senna festeggiante** and **L'Olimpiade** by Vivaldi with R. Alessandrini (Naïve); Monteverdi's **Orfeo** and Handel's **Lotario** (BMG) and **Rodelinda** (Deutsche Grammophon) with Alan Curtis; in DVD projects we cite **Ascanio in Alba** (Deutsche Grammophon) and **La Pietra di Paragone** (Naïve).

Recently released: *title-role* of Handel's **Rinaldo** (DVD Opus Arte) Carsen/Dantone *title-role*; of Gluck's **Ezio** of Handel for Virgin; *title role* of Vivaldi's **Ottone in Villa** with Il Giardino Armonico for Naïve Vivaldi Edition. We also mention a solo album Vivaldi's **Arie Ritrovate** with Accademia Bizantina for Naïve and a special project around Handel's **Lucrezia** for Ludi Musici.

Her appearances and recordings won several prizes among them we mention the prestigious Premio Abbiati, the highest acknowledgement of Italian critics.

Some of her very recent and future engagements include:

Title-role of Gluck's **Ezio** in Frankfurt Oper; **Aci, Galatea e Polifemo** with René Jacobs in Bruxelles; *Title-role* in Handel's **Giulio Cesare** and *title-role* in Handel's **Orlando** at the

Dresden Semperoper; **Ariodante** (*Polinesso*) in Aix en Provence's festival; Haendel's **Resurrezione** with Emmanuelle Haïm and Berliner Philharmoniker and European tour with René Jacobs and Cercle de l'Harmonie etc.

She will be "artist in residence" at the prestigious Wigmore Hall in London where she will give several **recitals** during future seasons.

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Sonia Prina's highlights, recent and forthcoming engagements:

- *Title role* of Handel's **Orlando** at Théâtre des Champs Elysées in Paris;
- *Title role* of Handel's **Rinaldo** at Glyndebourne Festival;
- *Title role* of Handel's **Rinaldo** at La Scala;
- *Title role* of Gluck's **Ezio** at the Frankfurt Opera House;
- *Title role* of Handel's **Orlando** at the Sydney Opera House;
- *Title role* of Handel's **Tamerlano** at the Munich Staatsoper;
- *Title role* of Mozart's **Ascanio in Alba** at the Salzburg Festival;
- *Title role* in Handel's **Rinaldo** at Zurich's Opernhaus;

- *Title role* in Handel's **Giulio Cesare** in three different productions Ravenna, Genova and Lille;
- *Amastre* in Handel's **Serse** at Houston Grand Opera and again in a new production in San Francisco;
- *Title role* in Vivaldi's **Farnace** at the Théâtre des Champs Elysées;
- *Clarice* in Rossini's **La Pietra di Paragone** at Théâtre du Chatelet in Paris;
- **Recitals** in Wigmore Hall 6 november 2012 and again in 2013 and many other important halls are also planned.