

Maria Grazia Schiavo

Soprano



Born in Naples, Maria Grazia Schiavo studied with R. Passaro at the Conservatory in Naples, graduating with honours. She won the First Prize both at the Santa Cecilia Competition in Rome and at the International Singing Competition of Clermont-Ferrand. She made her debut on stage with Roberto De Simone, performing the leading role in *La Gatta Cenerentola* touring major theatres both throughout Italy and abroad.

Her renditions of the following roles affirmed her as one of the most interesting sopranos of her generation in Bel Canto and Romantic repertoire: Violetta in *La Traviata* in Naples, Rome and Venice under the baton of Nello Santi; the title role in *Lucia di Lammermoor* in Turin, Naples and Rome; Dircea in Jommelli's *Demofonte* in Salzburg and Paris with Riccardo Muti; Adina in *L'Elisir d'amore* at the Teatro Petruzzelli in Bari and at the Liège Opera.

Earlier in her career, Maria Grazia was considered by many as one of the greatest specialists in the 18th Century Neapolitan repertoire. She sang *Veni Creator* in Naples with Maestro Muti, Cimarosa's *Marito disperato* in Hong Kong with Christophe Rousset, Paisiello's *Pulcinella vendicato*, Anfossi's *Finta giardiniera*, Piccini's *La Didone abbandonata*, De Majo's *Motezuma* and Vinci's *Partenope* with renowned Neapolitan Maestro Antonio Florio.

In the early Baroque Italian repertoire, she sang Euridice, La Musica and Proserpina in Monteverdi's *Orfeo* with William Christie and Pier Luigi Pizzi at the Teatro Real in Madrid; Venere in Cavalli's *Didone* with Europa Galante at La Fenice; Floralba in Cavalli's *Statira* at the Teatro di San Carlo in Naples. She appeared in Caldara's *Morte e sepoltura di Cristo* in Stavanger with Fabio Biondi.

Maria Grazia Schiavo paid tribute to Baroque composers such as Handel: Almirena in *Rinaldo* at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées with Ottavio Dantone, Dalinda in *Ariodante* with Christophe Rousset at the Theater an der Wien, the title role in *Partenope* at the International Baroque Festival in Beaune; Vivaldi: *La Fida ninfa* with Jean-Christophe Spinosi at the Opera Rara Festival in Krakow, *Giustino* at the Theater an der Wien; Pergolesi: *L'Olimpiade* in Naples; Gluck: *Il Trionfo di Clelia* at the Teatro Comunale di Bologna.

Part of her repertoire features sacred music: Paisiello's *Messa per l'Incoronazione di Napoleone* at the Festival of Saint-Denis; Mozart's *Exsultate jubilate* at the Teatro Real in Madrid; Mozart's *Mass in C minor* with Christophe Rousset at the Mozarteum in Salzburg...

Particularly fond of Mozart, Maria Grazia was Konstanze in *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* in Rome, Liège and Prague; Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte* in Bologna and at the Teatro Regio in Turin; Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* in Turin; Amital in *Betulia liberata* at the Salzburg Festival under the baton of Riccardo Muti.

She has issued several CDs with Naïve: *Pulcinella vendicato* by Paisiello, *Statira Principessa di Persia* by Cavalli and *Coralità e Devotione* by Provenzale. She has recorded Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* with Stéphanie d'Oustrac and Antonio Florio for the label Eloquentia; she features on the CD "Le Cantate Italiane di Handel" with la Risonanza released by Glossa. Her first solo album "Furor!" with music by Spanish composer Terradellas achieved great critical acclaim.

Recent and future engagements include the title role in *Anna Bolena* in Lausanne; Gilda in *Rigoletto* in Palermo; Violetta in *La Traviata* in Rome and Turin; Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* in Liège; the title role in *Lucia di Lammermoor* at the Teatro di San Carlo; Contessa di Folleville in *Il Viaggio a Reims* in Beijing and Rome; *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* in Naples; Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro* at the Teatro Regio Torino; Asteria in *Tamerlano* at the Teatro alla Scala ...

Highlights

- Rossini: **Il Viaggio a Reims** (Contessa di Folleville) – Rome Opera
- Handel: **Tamerlano** (Asteria) – Teatro alla Scala
- Donizetti: **L’Elisir d’amore** (Adina) – Liège Opera
- Donizetti: **Lucia di Lammermoor** (Lucia) – Turin, Naples, Rome
- Verdi: **La Traviata** (Violetta) – Naples, Venice, Rome, Turin
- Verdi: **Rigoletto** (Gilda) – Teatro Massimo Palermo
- Mozart: **La Betulia liberata** (Amital) – Salzburg Festival`
- Mozart: **Don Giovanni** (Donna Anna) – Teatro Regio Turin, Rome Opera
- Orff: **Carmina Burana** / Chicago Symphony Orchestra – Chicago
- Mozart: **Die Entführung aus dem Serail** (Konstanze) – Rome Opera, Grand Théâtre de Genève
- Handel: **Giulio Cesare** (Cleopatra) – Versailles Royal Opera, Théâtre des Champs-Élysées