



Sonia Prina

Contralto

Sonia Prina quickly established herself as one of the leading contraltos of her generation. After graduating in singing and trumpet from the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory in Milan, she was admitted at the Academy of Young Singers of the Teatro alla Scala.

She made her operatic stage debut at the Scala at only 23 years old as Rosina in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* conducted by Riccardo Chailly and featuring young Juan Diego Flórez as Almaviva.

Thanks to her unique voice Sonia received international recognition and won several prizes including The Italian music critics' Prize "Franco Abbiati" in 2006 and the "Tiberini d'Oro" Prize in 2014 both naming her "Best Singer of the Year".

Career highlights include the title roles in Mozart's *Ascanio in Alba* (Salzburg Festival) and in Gluck's *Ezio* (Frankfurt Opera). She was Clarice in Rossini's *Pietra del paragone* (Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris) and Isabella in *L'Italiana in Algeri* (Teatro Regio, Turin). She performed *La Resurrezione* with the Berliner Philharmoniker under Emmanuelle Haïm, Mozart's *Requiem* with Antonio Pappano at the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome and Beethoven's *9th Symphony* at the Royal Albert Hall for the BBC Proms.

Particularly fond of Handel, Sonia sang the title roles in *Giulio Cesare* (Paris, Dresden, Turin), *Orlando* (Sydney, Paris, Dresden), *Tamerlano* (Munich), *Amadigi* (Naples), *Rinaldo* (Zurich, Milan, Glyndebourne), *Silla* (Rome, Bucharest, Yokohama). She also performed as Bradamante in *Alcina* (Paris, Vienna, Munich, Hamburg, Bordeaux), Polinesso in *Ariodante* (Aix-en-Provence, Barcelona, San Francisco), Bertarido in *Rodelinda* (London, Vienna), Goffredo in *Rinaldo* (Chicago), Amastre in *Serse* (San Francisco, Houston), Galatea in *Aci, Galatea e Polifemo* (Brussels, Bucharest, London). She sang Handel's *Messiah* at the Musikverein Vienna under the baton of Erwin Ortner and at the Paris Philharmonie under Hervé Niquet.

Other Baroque highlights are Vivaldi's *Farnace* (Madrid, Venice) and *Teuzzone* (Liceu, Barcelona) with Jordi Savall, *Ottone in villa* with Diego Fasolis (La Fenice), *Juditha Triumphans* with Jean-Christophe Spinosi (Paris Théâtre des Champs-Élysées), Scarlatti's *Vergine addolorata* under Fabio Biondi (Staatsoper Berlin) and Hasse's *Semele* with Claudio Osele (Theater an der Wien).

In addition to the Baroque period, Sonia Prina has distinguished herself in Romantic and post-Romantic repertoire. She sang Mistress Quickly in *Falstaff* with conductors Donato Renzetti and Riccardo Frizza (Berlin, Parma, Turin); Smeton in *Anna Bolena* (Barcelona) alongside Edita Gruberová and Elina

Garanca; La Maman, La Tasse chinoise, La Libellule in *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* (Palermo and Naples); Federica in *Luisa Miller* (Barcelona). Under the guidance of Zubin Mehta, she appeared in the world premiere of *Chansons populaires pour voix et petit ensemble* by contemporary French composer Marc-André Dalbavie for the Florence Opera.

In 2017/2018, she was artist-in-residence at London Wigmore Hall where she has been re-invited year after year since 2012.

Sonia's vast discography includes several works by Handel – *Il Trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno*, *La Resurrezione* (Virgin,) *Lotario* (DHM), *Rodelinda* (Deutsche Grammophon), *Ezio* (Erato) – and by Vivaldi: *La Senna festeggiante*, *L'Olimpiade*, the title role in *Ottone in villa* and the solo album “Arie Ritrovate” (Naïve). Sonia also recorded Monteverdi's *Orfeo* (Erato) and the title role in Gluck's *Ezio*. She appears in the following DVDs: *Ascanio in Alba* (Deutsche Grammophon) and *Rinaldo* (Opus Arte) in which she sings the title roles, as well as *La Pietra del paragone* (Naïve). For the label Glossa, Sonia released Handel's *Catone* and *Silla* (title role), as well as the solo album “Heroes in Love” dedicated to Gluck which includes some world premiere recordings.

The 2023/2024 season will Sonia performing Matilda in Handel's *Ottone* for the Handel Festival Karlsruhe and the title role in Vivaldi's *Juditha triumphans* in Cremona, both under Carlo Ipata. She will sing the title role in Vivaldi's *Orlando furioso* in a Diego Fasolis/Fabio Ceresa production at La Fenice and Alcina in the same opera in Ferrara and Modena.