



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* which toured in major theatres in 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, Turin and Venice's La Fenice under the baton of the late Nello Santi and in a Stefano Ranzani/Robert Carsen production; Gilda in *Rigoletto* at the Teatro Massimo Palermo and Valencia Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia; the title role in *Lucia di Lammermoor* in Turin, Naples and Rome; Adina in *L'Elisir d'amore* at the Bari Teatro Petruzzelli and Opéra de Wallonie-Liège; La Contessa di Folleville in *Il Viaggio a Reims* at the Rome Opera. She also appeared as Olympia in Offenbach's *Contes d'Hoffmann* at the Naples Teatro di San Carlo.

More recently, Maria Grazia has returned to Bel Canto, performing the title role in Rossini's *Semiramide* under Corrado Rovaris for the Opéra de Lausanne, Lisetta in *La Gazetta* for the Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro with Carlo Rizzi conducting, Marie in Donizetti's *Fille du régiment* in a Stefano Ranzani/Barbe & Doucet staging for La Fenice, Adina in Donizetti's *Elisir d'amore* in Rennes, Angers and Nantes and Norina in *Don Pasquale* under Alessandro De Marchi at the Teatro Regio di Torino. She made her role debut as Liù in *Turandot* in a Donato Renzetti/Francesco Micheli production for the Caracalla Festival of the Rome Opera.

In other repertoire, her performances include Asteria in *Tamerlano* at La Scala with Diego Fasolis, Almirena in *Rinaldo* under Ottavio Dantone at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Dalinda in *Ariodante* at the Theater an der Wien and Mozart's *Mass in C minor* at the Salzburg Mozarteum, both with Christophe Rousset.

Under the guidance of Zubin Mehta, she performed as the soprano soloist in Hayden's *Paukenmesse* at the Florence Opera and further appeared in concert with Riccardo Minasi at the Opernhaus Zürich.

Particularly fond of Mozart, Maria Grazia was Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro* at the Teatro Regio Torino; Konstanze in *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* in Rome, Liège and Prague; Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte* in Bologna and Turin; Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* in Turin, Liège, Rome and Palermo. Add to this Ilia in *Idomeneo* in a new Fabio Biondi/Jean-Louis Grinda production at the Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège.

Under the knowing hand of Riccardo Muti, Maria Grazia starred as Amital in *Betulia liberata* at the Salzburg Festival.

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, and features on the CD "Le Cantate Italiane di Handel" with la Risonanza released by Glossa. Maria Grazia's first solo album "Furor!" with music by Spanish composer Terradellas achieved great critical acclaim.

Recent and future engagements include Gilda in *Rigoletto* helmed by Daniele Callegari and Damiano Michieletto at La Fenice and *Il Cappello di paglia di Firenze* (Elena) by Nino Rota helmed by Leonardo Sini and Damiano Michieletto at the Opéra Royal de Wallonie-Liège.

Maria Grazia returns to Donna Anna in a new *Don Giovanni* production at the Caracalla Festival of the Rome Opera and on tour across Japan under the baton of Riccardo Muti.