VIOLETA URMANA

Soprano

Born in Lithuania, Violeta Urmana is one of the most highly sought-after singers of dramatic German and Italian repertoire.

At the very beginning of her career, Violeta Urmana made a name for herself worldwide as a highly acclaimed Kundry in Parsifal and as Eboli.

In recent years she has played such parts as Amelia in Un Ballo in Maschera, Elisabetta in Don Carlo, Leonora in La Forza del Destino, Lady in Macbeth, Odabella in Attila, the title roles ofAida, La Gioconda, Medea, Tosca, Norma, Iphigénie en Tauride and Ariadne auf Naxos, Brünnhilde in Siegfried, Sieglinde in Die Walküre and Isolde.

Violeta Urmana is a regular guest at the world’s major opera houses - the Metropolitan Opera New York, the Teatro Real in Madrid, the Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona, the Opéra National de Paris, Deutsche Oper Berlin, the Vienna State Opera, Teatro alla Scala in Milan, the Royal Opera House Covent Garden in London - and at the festivals of Bayreuth, Salzburg, Aix-en-Provence, Edinburgh and the BBC Proms.

She has worked with such conductors as Claudio Abbado, Daniel Barenboim, Bertrand de Billy, Pierre Boulez, Semyon Bychkov, Riccardo Chailly, James Conlon, James Levine, Jesús López Cobos, Fabio Luisi, Zubin Mehta, Riccardo Muti, Sir Simon Rattle, Donald Runnicles, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Franz Welser-Möst and Christian Thielemann.

As a highly acclaimed concert and recital singer Violeta Urmana performs music by Mahler, Richard Strauss, Schoenberg, Berlioz, Wagner and Verdi in the most famous concert halls of Europe, the United States of America and Japan.

She recently sang IL TROVATORE at the Arena in Verona and in Berlin, AIDA in Boston, Vienna, Verona and at Metropolitan Opera in New York, VERDI REQUIEM in Barcelona with London Symphony Orchestra, OEDIPUS REX in Stokholm, DON CARLO in Valencia.

Among her future plans are TRISTAN UND ISOLDE in Berlin, ELEKTRA and CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA in Hamburg, AIDA, IL TROVATORE and UN BALLO IN MASCHERA at Teatro alla Scala in Milan.

Many CD and DVD recordings document her career: La Gioconda, Il Trovatore, Oberto, Un Ballo in Maschera, Aida, La Forza del Destino, Macbeth, Don Carlo, Andrea Chenier, Siegfried,Parsifal, Cavalleria Rusticana, Verdi’s Requiem singing both the soprano and alto part, Mahler’sDas Lied von der Erde and Rückert-Lieder, Zemlinsky’s Maeterlinck-Lieder, Berlioz’ La mort de Cléopâtre, Bartok’s Duke Bluebeard’s Castle, Stravinsky’s Rossignol, songs by R. Strauss, Berg, Liszt and her CD Puccini ritrovato.

She is Kundry in Tony Palmer’s film The Search for the Holy Grail.

Violeta Urmana has received many awards: in London the Royal Philharmonic Society Award for singers, in Vienna the title Österreichische Kammersängerin. Her homeland of Lithuania has given her its most important award: the order, third class, "Grand Duke Gedeminas of Lithuania". The Lithuanian University for Music and Theatre in Vilnius has awarded her an honorary degree.

In 2014 she was awarded the Commendatore dell'Ordine della Stella d'Italia by the Italian State President Giorgio Napolitano.

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