

Daniela DESSI, soprano

With an impressive repertoire, which includes more than seventy operatic works, Daniela Dessì is confirmed as one of the most important Sopranos on the current opera scene. With a solid international career, her performances and recordings are a reference for the whole Verdi repertoire as well as the Verist and Puccini repertoire. Born in Genoa, she trained at the Arrigo Boito Academy in Parma (singing and piano), qualifying later on at the Chigiana Academy in Siena.

In 1980, she won her first award at the International Competition of RAI and made her début with *La serva padrona* (Pergolesi). Thus, she began her spectacular career performing in the most important theatres and festivals worldwide, showing a deep aesthetic capability ranging from Monteverdi to Prokofiev, with a particular specialisation in Mozart. Currently she is considered as the best interpreter of the Verist repertoire.

Her presence is constantly requested on the most prestigious stages such as the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, the Regio in Turin, the Carlo Felice in Genoa, the San Carlo in Naples, the Comunale in Bologna, La Fenice in Venice, the Verona Arena, the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, in Florence, the Massimo in Palermo, the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, the Lyric Opera House in Chicago, San Francisco Opera House, Los Angeles Opera House, the Staatsoper in Vienna, Deutsche Opera in Berlin, Bayerische Staatsoper in Munich, the Opernhaus in Zurich, the Teatro Real in Madrid, the Liceu in Barcelona, the Maestranza in Seville, Bilbao Ópera House, Oviedo Opera House and many more, which include the most important theatres in Tokyo, Nagasaki, Yokohama, Osaka, Nagoya and Sapporo ó she being the first soprano to play the role of Butterfly in these numerous Japanese cities and in theatres such as the Opera Theatre in Seoul (Korea) and in the Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro, Salzburg Festival, Puccini Festival in Torre del Lago, Festival of the Valle d'Àtria in Martina Franca, and many more.

In more than thirty year career, thanks to a flawless talent and to an extraordinary dramatic instinct, Daniela Dessì has collaborated with the most influential conductors of her generation, such as Riccardo Muti (*Don Carlos*, *Falstaff*, *Verdi's Requiem*, *Così fan tutte* and *Nozze di Figaro*), Claudio Abbado (*Simon Boccanegra*, *Don Carlos*), James Levine (*Pagliacci*, *Bohème* and *Andrea Chénier*), Giuseppe Sinopoli (*Aida*, *Verdi's Requiem*), Daniele Gatti (*Tosca*, *Aida*, *Falstaff* and *Don Carlos*), Zubin Mehta (*Falstaff*, *Verdi's Requiem*, *Tosca* and *Don Giovanni*); Gianluigi Gelmetti (*Iris*, *Guglielmo Tell*, *Il Trittico*, (she is the first performer in Italy to sing all the three feminine characters); Bruno Campanella (*Cappello di Paglia di Firenze*, *L'elisir d'Amore*, *Ernani*), Bruno Bartoletti (*Mefistofele*, *La Cena delle beffe*, *Luisa Miller*, *Pagliacci*, *Tosca*, *Simon Boccanegra*, *Butterfly*, *Aida*); Nicolas Harnoncourt (*Aida*); Gustav Kuhn (*Falstaff*, *La Traviata*, *La Bohème*); Riccardo Chailly (*Don Giovanni*, *Falstaff*, *Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle*), Lorin Maazel (*Tosca*, *Turandot*), Carlos Kleiber (*La Bohème*), etc., in productions with directors of the standing of Franco Zeffirelli, Luca Ronconi, PierLuigi Pizzi, Roberto de Simone, Giorgio Strelher, and so on.

She always surprise and reach new goals as her important début in *La Gioconda* of Amilcare Ponchielli, performed in Palermo after 41 years from the 1st performance and the unforgettable début in the *Vier Letzte Lieder* by Strauss, for the Symphonic Season of Rome, in 2011.

The New Year is going to be special and intense for the soprano and the international opera scene. In February Daniela Dessì was at Teatro dell'Opera in Rome with *Madama Butterfly* after 4 years and where she had popular appeal and success with

critics. On March she'll entertain a gala in a concert with the most beautiful arias and duets in *La Gioconda* by Amilcare Ponchielli at the National Theater in Mannheim on March. On April, the announced and stunning début of Daniela Dessì in *Turandot* as the Princess Turandot will amaze the fans and the whole opera scena. Afterwards, the soprano will perform Adriana at the Gran Teatre de Liceu in Barcelona; Afterwards, recitals in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo in Brasil. Again, the soprano will perform in Gozo (Malta) as Cio-Cio San in a new production. Then, she returns back to Teatro Massimo in Palermo for *Madama Butterfly* (the same production of the one performed in Rome, last February) and again, her début as Paolina in *Poliuto* at the Théâtre National Marseille, La Criée.

During her career she has received several awards from different Musical Associations such as the Premio Abbiati in 2009 (the Italian Oscar in the world of classical music) for the role of Norma, performed in 2008 in Bologna. On August 2011 Daniela Dessì received the prestigious award of Belcanto Rodolfo Celletti in Martina Franca. She got the title of *Soprano Assoluto* (Absolute Soprano).

A large discography and a very sizeable collection of opera works on video and dvd are the testimonial to her devotion to tuition, which has led her to offer master classes in important Music Academies. Further to all this, has taken an important role in various television shows dedicated to the popularization of the operatic art.

© Alice Alberino ó Mrs Dessì's Assistant