

Elena Mosuc, Soprano

Elena Mosuc, born in Iasi (Romania), was at first educated at the local "George Enescu" – Conservatory. Before completing her studies she was already given the opportunity to celebrate her debut as a soloist in the opera house of her native city, where she sang the roles of the Queen of the Night, Lucia, Gilda and Violetta. In 1991, she won the international music competition organised by the "ARD" German Television Channel I in Munich and also the Monte-Carlo competition of that year. In November 1993, she was awarded the "European Furtherance Prize for Music" and in late 1995 the "Premio Bellini d' Oro" in Catania. In 2002 she received the "Premio Zenatello di Verona" and in 2004 the "Premio Verdi di Modena" and the "Premio Verdi di Verona". In the year 2005, the Romanian president bestowed upon her the title "Officer of the Arts"; this is the highest honour which can be awarded to a musician in that country. In 2009, she was given the price of the Italian critics "Lina Pagliughi: Siola d'oro " together with the medal of high patronage of the President of the Italian Republic, Giorgio Napolitano. Also in 2009, she made her doctor's degree in music science with „The Theme of Madness in the Italian opera of the first half of the 19-th century“. In Romania she has recently been appointed "Woman of the year 2009".

Since the beginning of her career, Elena Mosuc has been connected closely to the Zurich Opera House, and she has appeared there in many roles; these include the Queen of the Night, Konstanze, Donna Anna, Lucia di Lammermoor, Linda di Chamounix, Gilda, Elvira, Violetta Valéry, Luisa Miller, Sophie, Zerbinetta, Aminta/Timidia (*The silent woman*), Musetta, Antonida (*A life for the Tsar*), Micaëla, Olympia, Antonia and Giulietta. She has worked with many of the greatest conductors including Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Franz Welser-Moest, Christoph von Dohnányi, Plácido Domingo as well as Vladimir Fedoseyev, Ralf Weikert, Adam Fischer, Marc Minkowski, Marco Armiliato, Paolo Carignani, Michel Plasson, Patrick Fournillier, Nello Santi, Carlo Rizzi, Peter Schneider and Marcello Viotti.

Guest star appearances take her continuously to all the important opera houses in Europe (among others to Munich, Dresden, Hamburg, Berlin, Vienna, Brussel, Paris, Amsterdam) and also to Japan and China. She also appears regularly as a concert singer and in this field has worked with Sir Colin Davis, James Conlon, David Zinman, Michael Gielen, Fabio Luisi, Bruno Campanella, Bertrand de Billy, Daniel Oren, Stefan Soltesz, Leopold Hager, Roberto Rizzi Brignoli, Pinchas Steinberg and Yves Abel. Elena Mosuc also continues to give frequent concerts and to appear in opera soirees in her native country.

During the last years, Elena Mosuc has established her reputation as one of the world's most versatile and expressive sopranos. Sensational performances as the Queen of the Night in Amsterdam, Berlin, London, Paris, Rome, Tokyo and Shanghai have been followed by triumphs at the Bavarian Staatsoper in the title roles of *Lucia di Lammermoor* and *La Traviata*. In Essen's Aalto Theatre she has had outstanding success as *Luisa Miller* and as Elvira in Bellini's *I Puritani*. Her debut performances as Gilda and as Violetta in the Verona Arena were received with unanimous acclaim by public and critics alike. Other important und successful engagements brought her to the Deutsche Opera Berlin, where her debut involved all four principal female roles (Olympia, Antonia, Giulietta and Stella) in *Les Contes d' Hoffmann*, to the State Opera Berlin (Zerbinetta), to the Teatro Filarmonico di Verona (Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* and *La Traviata*) and to the Teatro La Fenice (*La Traviata*). Elena's opera performances have given her the opportunity to work with very famous directors such as Grischka Asagaroff, Philippe Arlaud, Pierre Audi, Ruth Berghaus, Liliana Cavani, Jürgen Flimm, Claus Guth, Stefan Herheim, Dietrich Hilsdorf, Nicolas Joël,

Guy Joosten, Martin Kusej, Cesare Lievi, Marco Arturo Marelli, Christine Mielitz, Jonathan Miller, Giancarlo del Monaco, Renata Scotto, Andrei Serban, Philippe Sireuil and Franco Zeffirelli.

She shared the stage with renowned colleagues, among them: Leo Nucci, Alfredo Kraus, Neil Shicoff, José Cura, Giuseppe Giacomini, Giorgio Zancanaro, Renato Bruson, Juan Pons, Giacomo Aragall, Lucia Popp, Peter Seiffert, Ann Murray, Ruggiero Raimondi, Jonas Kaufmann, Agnes Baltsa, Mirella Freni, Katia Ricciarelli, Denyce Graves, José Carreras, Plácido Domingo, Juan Diego Flórez, Marcello Giordani, Marcelo Alvarez, Carlos Alvarez, Rolando Villazón, Thomas Hampson, Angela Gheorghiu, Roberto Alagna, Lucio Gallo, Kurt Moll, Kurt Rydl, Maria Guleghina, Francisco Araiza, Luciana D'Intino, Barbara Bonney, Gwyneth Jones, Matti Salminen and others.

Highlights of recent seasons include her highly acclaimed role debuts as Marguerite (*Faust*), Amina (*La Sonnambula*), Liù (*Turandot*), Mimì (*La Bohème*) and *Maria Stuarda* in Zurich and at the State Opera Berlin; thereupon she appeared with sensational success as Violetta at the New Israeli Opera (directed by Franco Zeffirelli), at the Vienna State Opera and the New National Theatre Tokyo, as *Lucia di Lammermoor* at the Théâtre Capitole de Toulouse, in Thessaloniki (directed by Renata Scotto) at the Deutsche Oper Berlin and in Brussels, as Elvira at the Vienna State Opera, as Micaëla in the Verona Arena, as Gilda at the Teatro Regio di Parma, at the Vienna and the Bavarian State Opera and at the Teatro Verdi Trieste, as Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*) at the New National Theatre Tokyo, as Zerbinetta in new productions of *Ariadne auf Naxos* in Zurich and Genova, and lately in all principal female roles in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* at the State Opera of Hamburg. An absolute highlight was her triumphant debut as Violetta Valéry at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan under the baton of Maestro Lorin Maazel, in Turin under the conductor Gianandrea Noseda and her recent debut with the role of Medora in the Verdi's opera *Il Corsaro*.

Among her next engagements it must be noticed *Rigoletto* in La Scala, *Lucia di Lammermoor* in Turin and in Avenches' Festival, *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* (with all four female roles) in Zurich and Dallas, the recitals in Tokyo et in Romania (Bucharest and Iasi), *La Traviata* in Peking again under Lorin Maazel. In the next seasons she has been invited to sing Liù, Gilda, Donna Anna and others roles in Zurich, Donna Anna in Cleveland under the baton of Franz Welser-Möst, Konstanze (*Die Entführung aus dem Serail*) in the Bavarian State Opera of München, *La Traviata* in Berlin, *Lucia di Lammermoor* at the State Opera of Hamburg and Berlin, *Le Duc d'Albe* à Antwerpen. En septembre 2010 elle va faire son début au Metropolitan Operahouse avec le rôle de Olympia.

Her discography includes not only her solo albums *Au jardin de mon Coeur*, *Mozart Portrait* and *Notre Amour* (with many of the little-known tunes that were inspired by the folk melodies of her native country), but among others also Gualberto Brunetti's *Stabat Mater*, a world premier recording, *With Compliments* (arias by Händel with the Zurich Chamber Orchestra) and the complete recording of the operetta *Schön ist die Welt* (by Léhar). The latest release is Mahlers 2nd Symphony under the baton of Valery Gergiev. The artist is also featured on DVD in several roles including Musetta in *La Bohème*, Gilda with Leo Nucci in *Rigoletto*, Zerbinetta in *Ariadne auf Naxos* and Queen of the Night in *The magic Flute*. Especially noteworthy among her numerous TV appearances was the glamorous FIFA centennial gala conducted by Valery Gergiev, which was broadcast live in more than 120 countries all over the world. And finally, her first Television film – *The Genius of Mozart* –recorded by the BBC deserves a special mention.

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