

MARIA LUGIA BORSI - SOPRANO

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Soprano MARIA LUGIA BORSI was born in Sora, a town south of Rome, but raised in Pisa. She completed her formal musical studies with the highest honors from the "Pietro Mascagni Music Institute" in Livorno under the guidance of Lucia Stanescu. Some of her main vocal instructors include Renata Scotto, Claudio Desderi, Rodolfo Celletti, and Antonietta Stella.

In 2002 Ms. Borsi won first prize in the Sanremo International Vocal Competition, earning the title "Best Opera Singer of 2002" and the opportunity to perform more than 75 concerts world-wide with Andrea Bocelli (including the UK).

In 2004 she performed the role of Liù in TURANDOT at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan directed by Carlo Rizzi. In the same year she also made her debut at La Fenice interpreting the role of Violetta in LA TRAVIATA under the direction of Lorin Maazel, with stage direction by Robert Carsen. She also interpreted the arias of Mimì and Liù at the Puccini Festival in Torre del Lago during a special concert entitled "Le Donne di Giacomo Puccini" (The women of Giacomo Puccini) with Plácido Domingo.

More recently Ms. Borsi performed in LA TRAVIATA (Violetta) at the Opernhaus theater in Zürich with José Cura and with three legends of the opera stage: Giorgio Zancanaro, Renato Bruson and Giuseppe Sabatini. She also sang the roles of Micaëla in CARMEN at the Arena di Verona directed by Franco Zeffirelli and Desdemona in OTELLO at the Salzburg Festival and at the Opera di Roma both under the baton of Riccardo Muti. She also appeared in numerous performances of Beethoven's 9th Symphony and Verdi's "Requiem" under the direction of Lorin Maazel. A DVD will be released of Beethoven's 9th Symphony ("From Vatican City") with the direction of Maazel in February 2010.

Other recent activities have included Mimì in LA BOHÈME at the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino in Florence, TURANDOT (Liù) at La Fenice, a Gala Concert with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to celebrate the 150th birthday of Puccini, two recitals in Italy with José Carreras, Donna Elvira in DON GIOVANNI in Israel conducted by Zubin Mehta, and also at the Teatro Municipale di Salerno, and a tour of China again with José Carreras.

This year she sang Respighi's IL TRAMONTO with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra conducted by Maurizio Benini, gave a solo recital at the Maison de le Culture in Amiens and performed Beethoven's 9th Symphony with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin. She also sang COSÌ FAN TUTTE at the Teatro Massimo di Palermo, LA TRAVIATA with the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Myung-Whun Chung, as well as the rare 'Lament for Yitzhak' with Lorin Maazel at the Auditorium Parco della Musica in Rome and a Christmas Gala concert in Norway for NRK1 TV hosted by the Norwegian Royal Family.

Furthermore, Maria Luigia will soon be making her Opera debut in America as Desdemona in OTELLO with the Cincinnati Opera, COSÌ FAN TUTTE at the Teatro Bellini in Catania, her role debut as Cio-Cio San in MADAMA BUTTERFLY with the Royal Danish Opera and Verdi's Requiem in Madrid with the Orquesta de la Radio Televisión Española.

Ms. Borsi's future engagements include Magda in LA RONDINE at the Toulon Opera, LA BOHÈME at the Liceu in Barcelona and Liù in TURANDOT at the Choregies d'Orange.

