Martina Janková

Biography



The Swiss Soprano

Martina Janková, a Swiss soprano with Czech roots, is an internationally famous interpreter of Mozart and Baroque music. She was enthusiastically received as Susanna and Despina in the Mozart/Da Ponte cycles at the Zurich Opera House under Franz Welser-Most and at the Salzburg Festival (2013-2016). Her début role at La Scala Milano in 2016 was Bellezza in Handel's il Trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno where she had appeared also in Mendelssohn Symphony Nr.2. She toured Europe with Les Arts Florissants under William Christie, as well as at the Lucerne Festival, in the title role of Mozart's IL RE Pastore. In May 2017 she gave her début as Mélisande in Debussy's Pelléas et Mélisande with Cleveland Orchestras under Franz Welser-Möst.

Resurrection after 200 years, Helsinki 2018

A great success for Janková was a leading role in the opera Gustav Vasa. Koželuh's only surviving opera, resurrected two centuries after the composer's death! The czech-born composer Leopold Koželuh was a significant competitor of Mozart, and among their contemporaries, even more acknowledged of these two.

Nikolaus Harnoncourt

Over the course of many years she collaborated with the legendary conductor Nikolaus Harnoncourt, who repeatedly engaged her for important opera and oratorios performances. In 2019 she renewed her collaboration with N. Harnoncourt's Concentus Musicus under the musical direction of Stefan Gottfried, in a production of King Arthur at the Theater an der Wien.

Signature role

One of Martina Janková's signature roles is the Vixen in Janáček's Cunning Little Vixen, which she sang to great acclaim in Geneva, Zurich, and Cleveland, and which she performed 2017 on a European tour under Franz Welser-Möst in Vienna and Luxembourg, as well as 2018 with the Symphony Orchestra of Bavarian Broadcast Munich under Welser-Möst.

Important roles

Among the opera roles which Martina Janková has sung in Paris, Prague, Zurich, Geneva, and Vienna, are Mozart's Pamina/Zauberflöte, Rosina/La Finta Semplice, Serpetta/La Finta Giardiniera, Madame Silberklang/Der Schauspieldirektor, Celia/Lucia Silla, Ilia/Idomeno, Haydn's Celia/La Fede lta Premiata, Humperdinck's Gretel/Hänsel und Gretel, Verdi's Nannetta/Falst aff, Handel's Angelica/Orlando, Beethoven's Marzelline/Fidelio and Leonore-Version, Monteverdi's Drusilla, Giunone, and Fortuna/Il Ritorno D'ulisse, L'incoronazione di Poppea, and Rossini's Sophia/IL Signor Bruschino.

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Concert Singer

In addition to her work in opera, Martina Janková is a much sought-after concert singer. She has performed under conductors such as Jiri Belohlávek, Ivor Bolton, Bertrand de Billy, Riccardo Chailly, Iván Fischer, Ádám Fischer, Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Danielle Gatti, Philippe Herreweghe, Marek Janowski, Václav Luks, Sir Charles Mackerras, Andrea Marcon, Sir Neville Marriner, Ingo Metzmacher, Trevor Pinnock, Sir Simon Rattle and Wolfgang Sawallisch, Franz Welser-Möst and with orchestras such as the Berlin and Munich Philharmonic Orchestras, the Czech Philharmonic, the Gewandhaus Orchestra Leipzig, the Budapest Festival Orchestra, the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra, the Orchestra of the Champs-Elysées, the Israel Philharmonic, and the Cleveland Orchestra.

Lied-Recitals

Martina Janková has sung Lied-Recitals in London's Wigmore Hall, at the Festival "Prague Spring", the Rheingau Festival, the Festival Styriarte in Graz, and the Salzburg Festival.

Recordings

Numerous CD's and DVD's document the artistry of Martina Janková. Her new CD with Songs of B. Martinu was released by Supraphon and awarded "Diapason d'Or 2019". Her previous CD "Prague-Vienna" was awarded the "Diapason d'Or 2017". Further examples are Moravian Folksongs with 51 rare songs by Leoš Janáček; Bach Kantaten with the Collegium 1704 under Václav Luks; and Le Nozze Di Figaro from the Salzburg Festival 2015 with Martina Janková as Susanna.