

Maria Katzarava

Soprano

Born in a Georgian-Mexican family, the young soprano Maria Katzarava came to international attention when she was the winner of the First Prize and the Zarzuela Prize at the 2008 Plácido Domingo Operalia Competition, as well as major awards at the Carlo Bergonzi Prize, at the Francisco Viñas International Competition, the Oscar Della Lirica at Arena di Verona in 2010 and when she recently was awarded by Miami Life Awards as best female singer.

The role of Juliette in *Romeo et Juliette* has played a significant role in Maria Katzarava's career. In the 2010-2011 season, Katzarava made her debut at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as Juliette in performances conducted by Daniel Oren. It was Juliette that she subsequently made her debuts at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, Opera de Lausanne, Florida Grand Opera, Teatro Filarmonico in Verona, as well as for her French debut in St. Etienne, and in Moscow. In January of 2013, Katzarava sang the first Violetta of her career for her debut at the Grand Theatre de Geneve. She was hailed as a brilliant new discovery in the role. In the spring of 2013 she returned to the Florida Grand Opera for their production of *La Traviata*. During the 2012/2013 season, Katzarava also made her debut at the Teatro Petruzzelli in Bari as Isabella in Daniel Auber's rarely performed masterpiece, *La Muette de Portici*. In July of 2013 she debuted in Cagliari singing her first Suzel in Mascagni's *L'Amico Fritz*. She also joined the Teatro alla Scala on their tour to Japan where she sang Gilda in *Rigoletto*.

In summer 2014, Maria has toured with great success with tenor Andrea Bocelli in Estonia as well as in Lajatico, Italy, together with maestro Plácido Domingo and under the baton of Eugene Kohn.

Engagements for the 2014/2015 season include her debut in the role of Nedda in *Pagliacci* at the Fondazione Sinfonica Petruzzelli in Bari, as Liù at Teatro Lirico di Cagliari, her debut as Manon at Palacio de Bellas Artes and her debut as Antonia and Giulietta in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* in Piacenza, Modena and Reggio Emilia, her debut at the Teatro dell'opera di Roma as Gilda in *Rigoletto*, at the theatre in Genoa in her role debut as Micaela in *Carmen* and later on as Marguerite in *Faust* at the Grand Théâtre de Lausanne, Switzerland, among other engagements.

Also, Maria will be part of the Festival Internacional Cervantino 2014, Mexico, with a recital accompanied by internationally renown French pianist Helene Blanic.

Maria Katzarava made her European debut as Juliette in St. Etienne and in May of 2009 sang her first performances of Gilda in *Rigoletto* in Mexico City. In June 2009, she appeared as Gilda on tour with the Teatro Regio of Parma in Beijing. Other engagements of recent seasons include her debut at the Teatro di San Carlo in Naples as Valencienne in *The Merry Widow* and *Rigoletto* with the Teatro Regio of Parma on their tour to China. Katzarava also appeared at the Festival della Valle d'Itria in Martina Franca, Italy as the Princess of Navarra in Donizetti's *Gianni di Parigi*.

Ms. Katzarava began her musical education at the age of 3 studying violin and piano followed by vocal studies at the Superior School of Music in Mexico City, and has recently been a member of the Los Angeles Opera's Domingo-Thornton Young Artists Program. As the recipient of the Ramón Vargas-Pro Opera scholarship for distinguished young singers, she studied with Maestro Gabriel Mijares, Luisa Besroкова as well as with Mr. Vargas himself. She has appeared with the famed tenor in numerous concerts in Mexico, Italy and Switzerland.

-- Updated version 2014. Please don't use any previous version. --

ASkonzepte

Av. Baja California 278 Int. 802, Col. Condesa, México D.F.
www.askonzepte.com – anna@askonzepte.com

