



DIANA DAMRAU
Sopran

“... leading coloratura soprano in the world” New York Sun

Soprano Diana Damrau has been performing on the world's leading opera and concert stages for two decades. Her vast repertoire spans both lyric soprano and coloratura roles including the title roles in *Lucia di Lammermoor* (La Scala, Bavarian State Opera, Metropolitan Opera, Royal Opera House), *Manon* (Vienna State Opera, Metropolitan Opera) and *La traviata* (La Scala, Metropolitan Opera, Royal Opera House, Opéra national de Paris and Bavarian State Opera) as well as Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* (Metropolitan Opera, Salzburg Festival, Vienna State Opera, Royal Opera House).

Invested as Kammersängerin of the Bavarian State Opera (2007) and holder of the Bavarian Maximilian Order for Science and Art (2010), Diana Damrau has forged close links with the Bayerische Staatsoper in Munich where she has been seen in new productions of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Les contes d'Hoffmann* (the four heroines), *Ariadne on Naxos* (Zerbinetta), *The Silent Woman* (Aminta), *The Magic Flute* (Queen of the Night) and *Rigoletto* (Gilda). Other high profile appearances have included *La traviata* (Sophie) and *The Abduction from the Seraglio* (Constanze).

The Metropolitan Opera has been a house in which the soprano has performed her signature roles, been broadcast in HD to cinemas globally and made seven role debuts since her own debut there as Zerbinetta in 2005. Highlights have included new productions of *Rigoletto* (Gilda), *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (Rosina), *Le comte Ory* (Adèle) and *Les pêcheurs des perles* (Leïla). Other engagements have included the title roles in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *La traviata*, *Manon*, *La Sonnambula* and *La Fille du Régiment*. She was also the first singer in Metropolitan Opera history to perform the roles of Pamina and Queen of the Night in different performances of the same run of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*.

Diana Damrau has twice participated in the annual inaugural performance at La Scala di Milano; in 2004 in the title role of Salieri's *Europa Riconosciuta* at the house's grand reopening and in 2013 as the title role in a new production of *La traviata* to commemorate Verdi's 200th anniversary. Damrau has also appeared there as Lucia in *Lucia di Lammermoor* as part of Milan's Expo in 2015. In 2005 she gave her role debut as Susanna in a new production of *Le nozze di Figaro* and returned in 2016 in another new production of the piece, but on this occasion as La contessa.

The soprano has also performed contemporary works for the opera stage in roles written especially for her, most notably as the title role in Iain Bell's operatic adaptation of Hogarth's *A Harlot's Progress* (Theater an der Wien 2013) and as *Drunken Woman/Gym Instructress* in Lorin Maazel's *1984* (Royal Opera House 2005).

Diana Damrau has established herself as one of today's most sought-after interpreters of song, regularly performing at most worldwide renowned venues. She enjoys a close artistic partnership with pianist Helmut Deutsch and frequently performs in recital with harpist Xavier de Maistre. The latter collaboration can be heard in the CD release *Nuit d'étoiles* and a DVD capturing their performance at the Festspielhaus Baden-Baden.

Recording exclusively for Warner/Erato (former EMI/Virgin Classics), Diana Damrau made her recording debut with *Arie di Bravura* – a collection of Mozart and Salieri arias. Subsequent solo releases have included *Donna* – a recording of Mozart arias, *COLOraturaS* – a selection of coloratura arias from the romantic period, *Poesie* – orchestral songs by Richard Strauss (awarded the ECHO Klassik prize in 2011) and songs by Franz Liszt. Her album *Forever*, featuring highlights from operetta, film and musicals was awarded the ECHO Klassik Prize in 2014 and was followed by the release of the Belcanto-themed *Fiamma del Belcanto*. Damrau also features on various complete opera recordings on both CD and DVD.

On the occasion of her new album *Grand Opera* which is dedicated to the works of Giacomo Meyerbeer, Diana Damrau was touring Europe in May 2017. Together with the French bass-baritone Nicolas Testé performing opera gala and recital programmes she will tour Asia with concerts in Singapur, Shanghai, Tokyo, Seoul, Taipei and Beijing in November 2017. In February 2018, Diana Damrau performs in the most renowned concert halls in Europe such as in Berlin, London, Paris, Luxembourg and Vienna, interpreting together with tenor Jonas Kaufmann and pianist Helmut Deutsch Hugo Wolf's *Italienisches Liederbuch* on a Europe tour, followed by another Europe tour under the topic VERDIssimo.

2017/18 season highlights include Diana Damrau's return to the Bayerische Staatsoper as Lucia in *Lucia di Lammermoor* and as Violetta in *La Traviata*. She will give her role debut in the title role of *Maria Stuarda* at the Opernhaus Zurich and performs in the same role at the Deutsche Oper Berlin. Furthermore, she will give her debut in the role of Marguérite in *Faust* at the Deutsche Oper Berlin and performs in Meyerbeers *Les Huguenots* at the Opéra de Paris.

On 14 September 2017 Diana Damrau opened the new concert season of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam with selected Mozart Arias. At the reopening gala of the Berliner Staatsoper she interpreted together with the Berliner Staatskapelle under the baton of Daniel Barenboim Ludwig van Beethoven's 9th Symphony. Together with the Dresdner Staatskapelle under Christian Thielemann she performs on 3 December 2017 at the Christmas concert of the German television channel ZDF. At the beginning of the year she will follow an invitation to the Dresdner Opernball and in July 2018 she gives a concert at the Open-Air-Event "Klassik am Odeonsplatz" in Munich together with the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra under Robin Ticciati.

Another highlight is the world premiere of Iain Bell's *Aurora: Concerto for Coloratura Soprano* together with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra under Vasily Petrenko at the BBC Proms in the Royal Albert Hall.

Further ahead, plans include the title role in a new production of *La traviata* at the Metropolitan Opera and the role as Marguérite in *Faust* at the Royal Opera House London.