

ALEXANDRU AGACHE

Baritone

Born in Cluj-Napoca (Rumania) in 1955, Alexandru Agache studied at the Conservatory of his native town. In 1982 he started a regular collaboration with the Rumanian Opera of Cluj as baritone soloist. There, he made important debuts (among others, in the role of Sharpless in 1979) and sang in several principal roles.

In 1983 he was the first prize winner at the Concorso Voci Pucciniane in Lucca and made his debut in the role of Capitan Spavento in Mascagni's *Le Maschere* in Livorno. Again in Livorno, from 1983 to 1987, he has sung in *Don Giovanni*, *Le Maschere*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, only to name a few. In 1985 he was invited by the Berlin Staatsoper to take part in a tour to Japan with *Le nozze di Figaro* (Conte d'Almaviva), followed by the important debut at the Royal Opera House-Covent Garden in *Un ballo in maschera* (1988), and on the stage of the Teatro alla Scala in *L'elisir d'amore* (1988). In 1991 he returned to the Royal Opera House-Covent Garden to take part in the video-recording of *Simon Boccanegra*, under the baton of Georg Solti.

Alexandru Agache's successful career has subsequently brought him to the Teatro alla Scala (*L'elisir d'amore*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Don Carlo*, *Madama Butterfly*), to the Royal Opera House-Covent Garden in London again (*Un ballo in maschera*, *Simon Boccanegra*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *La Traviata*, *Rigoletto*, *Nabucco*, *Aida*, *Otello*, *La Gioconda*), the Opéra Bastille de Paris (*Un ballo in maschera*, *Rigoletto*, *Simon Boccanegra*, *La traviata*), the Wiener Staatsoper (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*, *La traviata*, *Il Trovatore*, *La Bohème*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Un ballo in maschera*), the Metropolitan Opera in New York (*Simon Boccanegra*, *Il Trovatore*, *Aida*, *Un ballo in maschera*), the Lyric Opera of Chicago (*La traviata*, *Nabucco*, *Simon Boccanegra*, *Rigoletto*), the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma (*Aida*, *Un ballo in maschera*), the Arena Verona (*La forza del destino*, *Nabucco*, *Aida*), the Deutsche Oper Berlin (*Andrea Chénier*, *Nabucco*, *La fanciulla del West*), the Bayerische Staatsoper in Munich (*Il trovatore*, *Aida*, *La forza del destino*, *Un ballo in maschera*), the Opera in Koeln (*Simon Boccanegra*, *La traviata*, *Macbeth*, *Un ballo in maschera*), the Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires (*Otello*), the Teatro Comunale di Firenze (*Simon Boccanegra*, *Macbeth*, *Aida*), the Teatro Comunale di Bologna (*Simon Boccanegra*), the Gran Teatre de Liceu in Barcelona (*Lucia di Lammermoor*), the Teatro Real in Madrid (*La forza del destino*, *Simon Boccanegra*), the Teatro Regio di Torino (*La fanciulla del West*), the theatres of Toulouse, Toulon, Lyon, Bordeaux, Rouen, Edimburgh, Budapest, Bilbao, San Sebastian, Oviedo, San Diego (*Otello*), Athens (*Cavalleria rusticana*), Cagliari (*Oedipe*).

Alexandru Agache's discography includes *Rigoletto*, *Lucia di Lammermoor* and *Faust* for Teldec, *Messa per Rossini* (world première recorded for Haenssler Classic), *Arald*, *Golem* by N. Bretan, video-recordings of *Simon Boccanegra* and *Aida* (at the Covent Garden).

Among his recent engagements it's worth mentioning *Simon Boccanegra* at the Opernhaus in Graz, *Tosca* at the Teatro de la Maestranza in Sevilla, *Macbeth* at the Semperoper in Dresden, *Rigoletto* in Toulouse, Gomez's *Colombo* at the Teatro Massimo Bellini di Catania, *Il Trovatore* at the San Diego Opera, *I vespri siciliani* (Guy de Montfort) on a Japan tour with the Teatro Massimo di Palermo, *Macbeth* in Seoul. He has just sung *Tosca* in Catania.

His future opera projects include *La forza del destino* at the New Israeli Opera in Tel Aviv, *Il Trovatore* at the Teatro Bellini of Catania, *Un ballo in maschera* in Santiago (Chile), *Macbeth* in Nice, *La Traviata* in Liège.

21th November 2007