



ANNA - KRISTIINA KAAPPOLA

Soprano

Looking back on successful house debuts at La Scala, Covent Garden and the renowned Mozart Festival in Salzburg in 2004 and 2005, Finnish-born soprano Anna-Kristiina Kaappola is now featured at the New York Metropolitan Opera as Queen of the Night in November 2007. She has just sung *Arabella*, *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, *La Rondine*, *Fidelio* at the Finnish National Opera and *Die Zauberflöte*.

Her extensive lyrical and coloratura repertoire ranges from baroque to contemporary music, with such roles as Susanna, Adina, Adele, Fiakermilli, Gilda, Juliette, Norina, Konstanze, Oscar, Waldvogel in *Siegfried*, Lisetta in *La Rondine*, Corinna in *Il viaggio a Reims* and a part in the world première of Eino-Juhani Rautavaara's *Rasputin*.

Several engagements in Berlin in 2003 and 2004, such as *Die Zauberflöte* both at the Deutsche Oper and the Deutsche Staatsoper and notably *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* at the Konzerthaus together with Topi Lehtipuu as Belmonte and the Academy for Ancient Music under the baton of Joos van Immerseel, opened the doors for an international career. Early guest engagements have included Frankfurt, Riga and Tel Aviv.

Since 1992, she has been performing regularly at the Savonlinna Opera Festival, lately as Olympia in the 2004 production of *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* and as Queen of the Night in 2006.

In 2005 season, she made her debut at the re-opening of Teatro alla Scala in Milan in the title role of Salieri's *L'Europa riconosciuta* under the baton of Riccardo Muti, who also invited her to his new *Die Zauberflöte* production at the Salzburg Festival. Since then she has been in increasing demand for her stunning performances as Queen of the Night, with regular engagements in Berlin, Dresden, Hamburg, Leipzig, Frankfurt, a concert tour in France together with Jean-Christophe Spinosi, her debut in London. Her future engagements include *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* (2007), *Die Fledermaus* (2007), *Ariadne auf Naxos* (2008) in Dresden; *Die Zauberflöte* in Berlin, Brest, Dresden, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Helsinki, Leipzig, Paris, Toulouse and New York in 2007 season.

Anna-Kristiina Kaappola is a regular performer on Finnish television and radio. Her concert and lied repertoire includes such composers as Bach, Fauré, Haydn, Händel, Mahler, Mozart, Nono, Orff, Pergolesi, Poulenc, Rossini, Salonen, Scriabin, Schubert, Schönberg, R. Strauss, Telemann, Villa-Lobos, Vivaldi, and others. In 2006 she performed Hugo Wolf's *Italienisches Liederbuch* at the Savonlinna Festival, Mahler's *Symphony n. 8* under the baton of Esa-Pekka Salonen at the Helsinki Festival, and made a concert tour in Spain and the Netherlands with Joos van Immerseel.

Future concert projects include Jonas Kokkonen's *Requiem* in Finland, Luigi Nono's *Come una ola de fuerza e luz* together with the Berliner Sinfonieorchester and Lothar Zagrosek conducting in March 2007 and a concert and recording of Beethoven's 9th Symphony together with Anima Eterna in Brügge under the baton of Joos van Immerseel.

After taking her final examinations at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Anna Kristiina Kaappola joined the Opera Studio and later on the permanent ensemble of the Finnish National Opera. A winner of the Mary Garden International Singing Competition in Aberdeen, she also received special prizes at the renowned competitions Timo Mustakallio and Miriam Helin.

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