



Dragana Radakovic

Soprano

Dragana Radakovic was born in Novi Sad (the Republic of Serbia). She graduated and received her master's degree from two Departments at the Faculty of Music in Belgrade: Vocal Arts in the class of Professor Radmila Bakočević and Conducting in the class of Professor Stanko Šepić. She continued her professional development in Italy by attending master classes of the famous sopranos: Renata Scotto, Mirella Freni, Magda Olivero and Bruna Baglioni. The most important and final contribution to her development was made by Professor Nikola Mitić.

Since March 2002 she has been singing the role of Abigaille (*Nabucco*) in two productions at the National Theatre in Belgrade (2002 and 2007). She appeared in the role of Rosalinde (*Die Fledermaus*) in the Serbian National Theatre in Novi Sad in three seasons, from 2004 to 2007. She made her debut as Odabella (*Attila*) in the Slovenian National Theatre in Maribor and at the International Festival in Ljubljana (Cankarijev dom) in the season of 2005/06 directed by Plamen Kartalov. In the same year, she appeared for the first time in the role of Marguerite (*Faust*) in the Slovenian National Theatre in Maribor, and at the International Festival in Ljubljana (Cankarijev dom), as well as in the Summer Festival in Italy - Oderzzo. In the season of 2007/08 she made her debut in the role of Leonora (*Il Trovatore*) at the National Theatre in Belgrade, which she still sings. In the same season she also sang Beethoven's 9th Symphony with Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as the role of Sylvia (*Die Czardasfurstin*) in the Serbian National Theatre in Novi Sad. In 2008, in the concert dedicated to Puccini in Palas del Art, Valencia, Spain, she performed with Juan Pons, Mariella Devia, Daniela Barcelona and the great maestro Placido Domingo. As Leonora (*La forza del destino*) she appeared in a new production of the National Theatre in Belgrade in the season of 2009/10. In 2009, she appeared for the first time in Romania in the role of Abigaille (*Nabucco*) in the Romanian National Opera in Timisoara. Since then, she has been a regular guest of that opera house singing the roles of Abigaille, Tosca, Aida, Adriana Lecouvreur and Donna Anna. In early 2011 she debuted in the Romanian National Opera Cluj-Napoca as Aida, and in May 2011, she sang the role of Tosca dedicated to the legendary soprano Virginia Zeani in the same theater. In September 2011, she made her debut as Adriana Lecouvreur in the Romanian National Opera at Timisoara.

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In November 2011, she was invited for the first time to sing in Holland and Belgium in Muziek Theater Breda and Muziek Theater Brugge in the role of Tosca. In December 2011, she appeared for the first time in the Teatro Lirico Elena Teodora in Craiova, Romania, in the role of Abigaille (*Nabucco*) and in January 2012 in the role of Aida in the same theater. In January 2012, she was hosted for the first time by the Croatian National Theatre in Osijek as Abigaille (*Nabucco*).

In February of the same year she made her debut with the role of Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*) in the Romanian National Opera in Timisoara, followed by her appearances in Germany in the same role in the theaters in Munich, Dortmund, Wolfsburg, Saarbrücken and Frankfurt. Since March 2012 she has begun cooperation with the Romanian National Opera in Constanta, Romania, singing the roles of Abigaille, Tosca and Aida, being also a guest at international festivals in Romania, Timisoara, Sibiu, Constanta and Hunedoara with the roles above. She gave notable concerts in the Netherlands and Belgium: Tilburg Concertzaal Muzik Theater in Brugge, Chasse Theater in Breda and Anton Philipszaal in the Hague.

In February 2013, she cooperated with Zurich Kammerphilharmonie for the concert dedicated to the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of G. Verdi. In May 2013, she appeared for the first time in the role of Norma in the Croatian National Theatre in Osijek. In October she debuted with the role of Desdemona (*Othello*) in Opera Romana Craiova and premiere of *Il Trovatore* with role of Leonora in Opera National Timisoara. 2014 is a very successful year for Dragana Radakovic, beside plenty of already sang roles like Aida, Abigaille, Tosca, Leonora, Donna Anna, she had opportunity to sing on Summer Festival in Schwerin (Germany) where she had excellent success with role of Abigaille (*Nabucco*). In October 2014 she opened a new season in Cairo Oprea, Egypt with role of Aida (*Aida*). In November she debuted in role of Turandot in Timisoara (Romania), and thanks to a grate success she had opportunity also to sing the same role in Opera Nationala in Cluj-Napoca. In March 2015 she sang role of Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* in new production in HNK in Osijek, Croatia. In May in Cairo Opera Company, Egypt she sang role of Leonora in *Il Trovatore* where she got an excellent critics. 2015 August she sang Turandot in Timisoara, International Festival of Opera and in September she had an opportunity to sing for the first time in Moldavia with the role of Desdemona in *Otello* on Festival Maria Bieshu. In October 2015 she has her 6th production of Tosca in HNK Osijek, Croatia. In March and April 2016 Dragana Radakovic had her debut appearance at Australia Opera in Sydney with 14 performances of title role of *Turandot*. In September, she appeared again in the title role of *Turandot* in two performances at 30th anniversary of Macao International Music Festival. In November this year, Dragana performed in China (National Centre for the Performing Arts) the role of Santuzza (*Cavalleria rusticana*). In December 31st she sang New Eve Gala Concert in Sydney Opera House and in January she appear in the role of Santuzza in same theatre and in Arts Centre Melbourne in May 2017. During the summer of 2017 she sang *Aida* on International festivals in Bulgaria and in Moldavia. In November she sang a new production of *Il Trovatore* role of Leonora in HNK Osijek, Croatia.

During the year 2018. she performed many roles in Nabucco, Turandot, Tosca, Aida, *Il Trovatore* in National Opera Sofia (Bulgaria) and Bucharest (Romania). The biggest event in 2018. was 150

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years since the first opera Aida, in front of the Pyramids in Egypt, where she interpreted the main role of Aida (March 2018). In June 2018 she debuted in Opera Nice in France on a Gala Concert to close the season. In September (2018) at the International Opera Festival Sibiu (Romania) she sings solo soprano in Verdi Requiem.

In the season 2018/19 she sings for first time in Minsk (Belarus), role of Tosca. In December 2018, she debuts the role of Elisabetta (Don Carlo) in the National Opera Bucharest where she also sings Abigaille in Nabucco and Turandot for many performances in the same season. For the fourth time she returns to Sydney Opera House to interpret the role of Turandot in the new production in February/March 2019, in April of the same year she is guest with Turandot in National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts, Taiwan, she will perform the same role in the same Theatre in season 2020. She sings Norma and Abigaille at the Opera of Timisoara, Tosca at HNK of Osijek, Abigaille in Stara Zagora, in Ljubijana, at the Opera of Braunschweig. In May 2020 she will be Turandot at the Opera of Banska Bystrica.

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