

MARIA SOULIS

MEZZO-SOPRANO



As Cornelia in Handel's *Giulio Cesare* with Thirteen Strings –

“One of the pleasures of this production was high quality of the singing all around. Even at that, there were some outstanding voices. Maria Soulis portrayed Cornelia, the wife of Pompey with elegance and tragic grace, and possibly the evening's finest singing.”

Richard Todd, Ottawa Citizen

“Maria Soulis as Carmen was sensuous and mocking, totally in control, her voice full of warmth and drama, with a thrilling freedom of phrasing and excellent diction. Poor Don Jose never stood a chance.”

Birmingham Post, England

BIOGRAPHY

Toronto-born mezzo-soprano Maria Soulis began her career as a principal artist with the Regensburg Opera in Germany, performing the roles of **Carmen**, **Rosina**, **Nicklausse**, **Dido**, and **Adalgisa** in theatres throughout Germany, France and the United Kingdom. In concert works from Bach to Mahler, her voice has been praised internationally by reviewers who have described it as “warm and powerful”, as well as “gorgeous, dusky-toned” with a “ruby red timbre”.

Maria's 2019-20 season included **La Ciesca** in *Gianni Schicchi* and the **Monitor** in *Suor Angelica*, in Pacific Opera Victoria's *Il Trittico*. Maria debuted as **Marcellina** in *Against the Grain* Theatres updated *Figaro's Wedding*, appeared as **Flosshilde** in Pacific Opera Victoria's *Das Rheingold*, and sang **Clara** in the world premiere of *Oksana G.* with Tapestry Opera.

Maria is honoured to have song cycles written for her by Canadian composers William Beauvais (*Rounding the Human Corners*), Colin Eatock (*Three Songs from "The Prophet"*), James Moffett (*Songs for a Summer's Night*), and Constantine Caravassilis (*Four Songs from the Age of Rembetiko*).

Upcoming projects include a concert of chamber music for voice and string quartet, featuring Jake Heggie's arrangement of Debussy's *Chansons de Bilitis*, and Constantine Caravassilis' *Four Songs from the Age of Rembetiko*, which were commissioned by and dedicated to Maria.

A member of the Toronto Heliconian Club, Maria performs often on its concert series as a singer and as a pianist and composer, recently performing excerpts from her piano suite, “*Memories, Greece*”.

Maria Soulis can be heard on the Juno-nominated Naxos CD “*Vivaldi – Sacred Music*” with Kevin Mallon and Aradia Ensemble.

SELECTED RESUME

OPERA

Marcellina *Figaro's Wedding* | Against the Grain Theatre
La Ciesca *Gianni Schicchi* | Pacific Opera Victoria
Adalgisa *Norma* | Angers Nantes Opera, France
Olga *Eugene Onegin* | Orquestra Gulbenkian, Lisbon
Madame de la Haltière *Cendrillon* | Opera Zuid, Netherlands

ORATORIO & CONCERT

Bach

Christmas Oratorio | Elmer Iseler Singers

Dvorak

Requiem | Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony Orchestra

Honegger

King David | Regensburger Kantorei

Mahler

Kindertotenlieder | Mährische Philharmonie Olmutz

Mendelssohn

Elijah | Chorus Niagara



as **La Ciesca** in *Gianni Schicchi* with Pacific Opera Victoria (Photo: David Cooper)

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