

biography

JOYCE DIDONATO – MEZZO-SOPRANO



"The staggering, joyful artistry of Joyce DiDonato reminds us that in any generation there are a few giants. Joyce is not only a great, brave and inspiring artist – one of the finest singers of our time- but she is also a transformative presence in the arts. Those who know her repertoire are in awe of her gifts, and those who know nothing of it are instantly engaged. Joyce sings and the world is suddenly brighter. She compels us to listen actively, to hear things anew." Jake Heggie, Gramophone

Winner of the 2012 Grammy Award for Best Classical Vocal Solo, Kansas-born Joyce DiDonato entrances audiences and critics alike across the globe, and has been proclaimed 'perhaps the most potent female singer of her generation' by *The New Yorker*. With a voice 'nothing less than 24-carat gold' according to the *Times*, DiDonato has soared to the top of the industry as both a performer and a fierce arts advocate, gaining international prominence in operas by Rossini, Handel and Mozart, as well as through her wide-ranging, acclaimed discography. Her signature parts include the *bel canto* roles of Rossini, leading the *Financial Times* to declare her Elena *La Donna del Lago*, 'simply the best singing I've heard in years'.

Much in demand on the concert and recital circuit, DiDonato holds residencies this season at both the Carnegie Hall, New York and the Barbican Centre, London. Recently she completed an acclaimed recital tour of South America, and has appeared in concert and recital in Berlin, Vienna, Milan, Toulouse, Mexico City and Aspen, in addition to appearing as guest singer at the BBC's Last Night of the Proms at the Royal Albert Hall, London.

In opera she appeared last season as *Cendrillon* at the Liceu Barcelona, Sesto *La Clemenza di Tito* at the Lyric Opera Chicago, Angelina *La Cenerentola* at the Metropolitan Opera, and the title role of Donizetti's *Maria Stuarda* at the Royal Opera House. Highlights this season include *Romeo / Capuleti e i Montecchi* in her native Kansas City, Elena *La donna del lago* at the Metropolitan Opera, *Maria Stuarda* in Barcelona, the title role of *Alcina* with the English Concert, and Marguerite *La damnation de Faust* with the Berlin Philharmonic and Sir Simon Rattle.

An exclusive recording artist with Erato/Warner Classics, DiDonato's most recent recording, *Stella di Napoli*, is a sumptuous *bel canto* banquet including little-known gems alongside music by Bellini, Rossini and Donizetti. Her Grammy-Award-winning recording *Diva Divo* comprises arias by male and female characters, celebrating the rich dramatic world of the mezzo-soprano. The following recording *Drama Queens* was exceptionally well received, both on disc and on several international tours. A retrospective of her first ten years of recordings entitled *ReJoyce!* was released last year.

Other honours include the Gramophone Artist of the Year and Recital of the Year awards, a German Echo Klassik Award as Female Singer of the Year, and an induction into the Gramophone Hall of Fame.

Joyce DiDonato is represented by Intermusica.

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