



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

Multi Grammy Award winner and 2018 Olivier Award winner for Outstanding Achievement in Opera, Kansas-born Joyce DiDonato entrances audiences 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, Joyce has soared to the top of the industry both as a performer and a fierce advocate for the arts, gaining international prominence in operas by Handel and Mozart, as well as through her wide-ranging, acclaimed discography. She is also widely acclaimed for the bel canto roles of Rossini and Donizetti.

Much in demand on the concert and recital circuit she has recently held residencies at Carnegie Hall and at London’s Barbican Centre, toured extensively in the United States, South America, Europe and Asia and appeared as guest soloist at the BBC’s Last Night of the Proms. Recent concert highlights include the Chicago Symphony Orchestra under Riccardo Muti, the Berlin Philharmonic under Sir Simon Rattle, Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique under Sir John Eliot Gardiner, the Philadelphia Orchestra under Yannick Nézet-Séguin, and the Accademia Santa Cecilia Orchestra and the National Youth Orchestra USA under Sir Antonio Pappano.

In opera, Joyce’s recent roles include Didon *Les Troyens* at the Vienna State Opera; Sesto, *Cendrillon* and Adalgisa *Norma* at the Metropolitan Opera, *Agrippina* in concert with Il Pomo d’Oro under Maxim Emelyanhev; Sister Helen *Dead Man Walking* at the Teatro Real Madrid and London’s Barbican Centre; *Semiramide* at the Bavarian State Opera and Royal Opera House, and Charlotte *Werther* at the Royal Opera.

Joyce’s 19/20 season sees her staged debut as Agrippina in a new production at the Royal Opera House, returns to the Metropolitan Opera as Agrippina and Charlotte *Werther*, and performances as Semiramide at the Liceu Barcelona. She is Carnegie Hall’s 19/20 Perspectives Artist with appearances including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra under Muti, with Nezet-Séguin in recital performing Schubert’s *Winterreise*, a *Joyce & Friends* chamber music concert joined by the Brentano Quartet and pianist Byran Wagorn, a baroque inspired programme *My Favourite Things* with Il Pomo d’Oro, as well as live-streamed masterclasses. Also with Il Pomo d’Oro, the season holds the final tour of her album *In War & Peace* to South America culminating in Washington DC, as well as a European and US tour of *My Favourite Things*. Other highlights include a tour with the Orchestre Métropolitain under Nézet-Séguin; touring her latest album release *Songplay* in Europe and recorded concerts of Berlioz *Roméo & Juliette* with John Nelson and the Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg.

An exclusive recording artist with Erato/Warner Classics, Joyce’s award-winning discography includes *Les Troyens* which in 2018 won the Recording (Complete Opera) category at the International Opera Awards, the Opera Award at the BBC Music Magazine Awards and Gramophone’s Recording of the Year. An extensive recording artist, other recent albums include *Songplay*, *In War & Peace* which won the 2017 Best Recital Gramophone Award, *Stella di Napoli*, her Grammy-Award-winning *Diva Divo* and *Drama Queens*. Other honours include the Gramophone Artist of the Year and Recital of the Year awards, and an induction into the Gramophone Hall of Fame.

For the most up-to-date biography, please contact us. This biography should not be edited without permission from Askonas Holt.

SOPHIE DAND / August 2019

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