



CESTI COMPETITION 2015 - BIOGRAPHIES

Innsbrucker Festwochen der Alten Musik

ANAT CZARNY - mezzo-soprano

Age: 31, Nationality: Israeli and Belgian

Anat Czarny, was born in Israel. She graduated from the Buchmann-Mehta School of Music at the Tel-Aviv University. She performed in many recitals and concerts including radio broadcasts throughout Israel, Italy and France. She performed as a soloist with all the major orchestras in Israel including the IPO. Anat was a member of the Israeli Opera's Meitar Opera Studio.

Her repertoire includes Hänsel in Hänsel und Gretel (Humperdinck), Cherubino in Le nozze di Figaro (Mozart), Angelina in La Cenerentola (Rossini) Dido in Dido and Aeneas (Purcell) and other roles. At the Israeli Opera she performed the Second Lady in the community production of The Magic Flute (Mozart), Giovanna in Rigoletto (Verdi) and Gianetta in L'elisir d'amore (Donizetti).

KONSTANTIN DERRI - haute-contre

Age: 28, Nationality: Ukrainian

Konstantin Derri is a countertenor award winner and the promotional prize winner of the XVI International Singing Competition «Ferruccio Tagliavini». He is a graduate of the Conservatorio Superior de Música de Valencia (Bachelor and Masters degrees) and of the Conservatory of Krivoy Rog, as pianist. Konstantin has sung 'Giulio Cesare' (Hamburger Kammeroper), 'Rinaldo', 'Orfeo ed Euridice', 'Dido and Aeneas' (Kiev Opera, Auditorio of Valencia, Riba-Roja, Theater 'Ideal' of Castelo de la Ribera, Theater Auditorio 'Francisco Chirivella' of Catarroja, Gran Theater of Xativa).

His festival appearances have included Kammeroper Schloss Rheinsberg, Baroque music of Peñíscola, La Quincena Musical of San Sebastian, Sacred Music of Zaragoza. His concert performances have included recitals in Lviv National Opera, Dnipropetrovsk Opera, Donetsk Opera, Kyiv National Opera of Ukraine, Kyiv National Philharmonic, Palau de la Música, L'Auditorio of Torrent, and the Royal Academy of Fine Arts of Valencia.

His first CD, 'Joan Cabanilles, la música d'un temps', was recorded with the Grup Valencià de Música Antiga 'Música Trobada'. His future projects include 'Dido and Aeneas' (Teatro Real) with Forma Antiqua.



ALIX LE SAUX - mezzo-soprano

Age: 27, Nationality: French

Alix Le Saux, mezzo- soprano, makes her debuts at 23 at the National Opera of Paris, in the role of "Ein Junger Hirt" in Tannhäuser, the next year she is "Linette" in The Love for Three Oranges and "Kätchen" in Werther. The Opera Comique invited her for the roles "la Discorde" and "the 2nd Coryphée" in Amadis de Gaule. Then she is offered to perform as "Armeline" in Cendrillon by Viardot. In 2011, she sings the "l'enfant" in the Child and the Spells at the Salle Pleyel. She performs this role in Radio Classique's Festival and at Théâtre du Châtelet.

Last season she was at Nice's Opera House and Théâtre de Grasse as "La Muse" and "Nicklausse" in The Tales of Hoffmann and then at Saint-Etienne's Opera House in "Rose" in Lakme. This season she took part of the Opera Studio of Opéra de Lyon as "Lady Capulet" in Romeo and Juliette by Blacher, "Orphée" in Orphée et Eurydice at Festival des Petites Nuits de Sceaux.

Next season she will sing "l'Ecureuil" and "la Chauve-Souris" in the Child and the Spells and "L'Hirondelle" in L'hirondelle inattendue by Laks in Opéra de Montpellier. And she will come back in Théâtre des Champs Élysées with "l'enfant" in the Child and the Spells.

MATTEO LOI - bass-baritone

Age: 27, Nationality: Italian

Born in Cagliari in 1987, he graduated in cello at the conservatory of his city in October 2009. He continued his studies at the School of Music of Fiesole as a full member of the Orchestra Giovanile Italiana, and the Piano Academy of Imola. Later he began singing studies.

He studied in Florence under the guidance of Maestro Gianni Fabbri. Selected by Maestro Alberto Zedda, he participated at the Accademia Rossiniana of Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro in the summer 2013, making his debut as Don Alvaro in "Il Viaggio a Reims" by Rossini. During two consecutive years, he followed the singing masterclasses held in Florence by the famous baritone Alessandro Corbelli. Matteo Loi debuted the role of Dandini in La Cenerentola by Gioachino Rossini in October 2014 at the Auditorium of Tenerife.



ANTHEA PICHANICK - contralto

Age: 29, Nationality: French

French contralto Anthea Pichanick, winner of the third prize at the 2014 Frouville International baroque competition and semifinalist at the 2014 Montserrat Caballe Opera competition started her musical education as a violinist in Aix en Provence. After completing a bachelor degree in musicology from the University of Lyon she specialized in singing at the National Superior Conservatory of Geneva for Music and Dance, where she obtained a bachelor degree in classical singing.

As part of the course in Geneva she studied in Italy with Maestro Leonardo de Lisi for one year. She got a master degree in 2013 in classical singing at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Lyon where she studied under Brian Parsons. She trains in France with Cécile de Boever and in England with Susan Mc Cullogh. As a soloist she performs with " Le Concert de L'hostel dieu" directed by Franck Emmanuel Comte. She recently made her debut as the Sorceress in Purcells' Dido and Aeneas' at the Theatre de la Croix Rousse in Lyon, under the direction of Sebastien D'Herin and his ensemble: Les nouveaux Caractères.

She has also been selected to participate in a masterclass with Montserrat Caballe.

ALICE ROSSI– soprano

Age: 23, Nationality: Italian

Was born in Varese, Italy. At a young age she learned the rudiments of harmony, rhythm, and singing from her parents, two experienced jazz musicians.

She is presently completing her Masters in Pedagogy at the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana (CSI) in Lugano, under the direction of Barbara Zanichelli and the well-known mezzo soprano and contemporary music expert Luisa Castellani.

She made her operatic debut in 2013 playing the role of Lucia in Benjamin Britten's opera *The Rape of Lucretia* with musical director Arturo Tamayo at the Palazzo dei Congressi in Lugano (CH). In 2014 she performed *Songs By Myself* and *Nenia: the Death of Orpheus* by Harrison Birtwistle during the festival dedicated to the 80th birthday of the composer in Hannover, in collaboration with Das Neue Ensemble under the direction of Stefan Asbury. She interpreted the role of Regina in the oratorio *S. Giovanni Nepomuceno* by A. Caldara, in collaboration with La Divina Armonia directed by Lorenzo Ghielmi at the Salzburger Bach gesellschaft and interpreted Euridice in Orfeo by C. Monteverdi at the Teatro Comunale of Ferrara under the direction of Roberto Zarpellon.



BRADLEY SMITH – tenor

Age: 26, Nationality: British

Bradley has just graduated from the Royal Academy of Music where he was awarded the Tom Hammond Opera Prize and the Blyth-Buesst Operatic Prize.

With Royal Academy Opera he performed Tom Rakewell (*The Rake's Progress*), the Male Chorus (*The Rape of Lucretia*), le Prince Charmant (*Cendrillon*), and Arithmétique (*L'enfant et les sortilèges*) at the Barbican with the BBC Symphony Orchestra. He played Tamino (*Die Zauberflöte*) for Longborough Opera's Young Artists' Tour, Peter Quint (*The Turn of the Screw*) as a Young Artist for Opera Holland Park, and he was a member of the Glyndebourne Chorus performing Rameau's *Hippolyte et Aricie*. This summer he prepared the role of Ferrando for Mozart's *Così fan tutte* at Garsington Opera.

Bradley's recent concert engagements include Britten's *Serenade for Tenor and Horn*, Schumann's *Liederkreis* Op. 39, Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*, *St John* and *St Matthew Passions*, Handel's *Messiah*, *Judas Maccabeus*, and *Athalia*, Haydn's *The Creation*, and Mendelssohn's *Elijah* at venues including St John's Smith Square, the Cadogan Hall, and St Martin-in-the-Fields. Upcoming engagements include performances throughout the UK, Germany, and Romania.

YULIA SOKOLIK - mezzo-soprano

Age: 26, Nationality: Russian

Yulia was born in Moscow and studied Vocal Arts at the Gnessin Institute in Moscow and at the Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media (HMTMH). She received awards in the various competitions and was as well awarded with the first prize at the All-Russia Competition „The Young Talents of Russia“. She also received scholarships from the Yuri Rozum Foundation and from the Walter and Charlotte Hamel Foundation. She was to be seen among others as Bradamante (Alcina) in the Osnabrueck Theatre.

Starting with the 2012/13 season, she was a member of the Opera Studio of the Bavarian State Opera, she worked among others with such conductors as Kirill Petrenko, Marco Armiliato, Kent Nagano, Tomas Hanus, Maurizio Benini und Carlo Montanaro. The singer graduated from the mastership courses with Ioan Holender, Edith Wiens, Brigitte Fassbaender, Margreet Honig, Rudolf Piernay and Joan Norris.

Starting with the 2014/15 season, Yulia Sokolik became a permanent member of the ensemble of the State Theatre in Oldenburg, where she is also to be seen as Mag Page (Falstaff), Dejanira / Laikas (Hercules), Cherubino (le Nozze di Figaro), Xerxes (Xerxes) and Hansel (Hansel and Gretel).



RODRÍGO SOSA DAL POZZO - counter-tenor

Age: 26, Nationality: Italian

Rodrigo had his debut in oratorio at the age of 16, singing the countertenor solo of Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* conducted by I. Palacios and at the age of 19, he had his debut in opera, performing the Sorceress in H. Purcell's *Dido & Aeneas* conducted by P. Larraz together with the Baroque Orchestra of Catalonia. At the age of 20 he became a member of the Swedish Radio Choir, conducted by Peter Dijkstra and the Capella Reial de Catalunya, conducted by Jordi Savall and in the same year he was one of the finalists of the International Vocal Competition (IVC 2010) in the Netherlands. He has as well performed with several other early music ensembles and orchestras around Europe, as for instance the Ensemble Villancico based in Stockholm – Sweden and conducted by P. Pontvik, with whom he recorded the Album “Tambalagumbá” in 2013. He is as well as a singer, a choral and orchestral conductor, graduated in 2013 in Graz, Austria, under the tutelage of Johannes Prinz among others.

As a singer, he combines the alto/mezzo repertoire together with the haute-contre repertoire, focusing in French baroque music, a rather rare combination for which he has M. Zanetti as a coach. He has also studied for M. Almajano, R. Levitt, G. Bruna and E. Årman. After having lived and studied in 6 countries and expanded his career across all borders, he's developed a unique multifaceted profile, influenced by all different music cultures he has been related to, enriching his repertoire and performance both as a singer and a conductor. Born in Mérida – Venezuela, he is nowadays finishing his masters in early music singing at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm – Sweden under the tutelage of Susanne Rydén.

ARIANNA VENDITTELLI - soprano

Age: 28, Nationality: Italian

She makes her debut in May 2010 at Salzburg Festspiele and at Ravenna Festival in Mozart's *BETULIA LIBERATA* with Riccardo Muti. In 2012 she sings at Teatro Regio in Turin *COSÌ FAN TUTTE*, in the role of Despina, conducted by Christopher Franklin and directed by Ettore Scola. Among the recent commitments there are *GISELA!* by H. W. Henze (title role) for the Opening of the 2015 Season at Teatro Massimo, directed by Emma Dante and conducted by Constantin Trinks; *COSÌ FAN TUTTE* and *DON GIOVANNI* at Teatro Olimpico of Vicenza during the 2014/2015 Seasons, singing Fiordiligi and Donna Elvira, conducted by Giovanni Battista Rigon and directed by Lorenzo Regazzo; *IL RE PASTORE* (Mozart) in the role of Aminta at Teatro Verdi of Trieste, conducted by Felix Krieger. She has released with Roma Inedita and Ensemble MareNostrum *SAN GIOVANNI CRISOSTOMO* by Stradella, in the role of Eudisia.

Since 2013 she is the soprano of the ensemble Imago Sonora, specialised in contemporary music and 20th Century music. Additionally in 2014, together with harpist Augusta Giraldi, she founds Alba Semiplena, a duo performing in many concerts of Italian, German and French chamber music.



BARBARA ZAMEK - soprano

Age: 29, Nationality: Polish

Polish, has recently performed the role of Albertynka in the production of "Operetka" (M.Dobrzyński) in Warsaw Chamber Opera. In the year 2014 she has also performed the role of Serpina in *La serva padrona* (G.B.Pergolesi) in Warsaw Chamber Opera, as well as the roles of Poppea in *Agrippina* (G.F.Händel) in Stanislawowski's Theater in Warsaw and Violetta in *Traviata* (G.Verdi) at Les Soirees Lyriques de Gigondas in France.

Her former engagements include the roles of Frau Biedermann in the production of *Biedermann und die Brandstifter* (S. Vosecek) at the Neue Oper Wien and Papagena and Erste Dame in *Die Zauberflöte* (W. A. Mozart) at Le Studio de l'Opéra de Lyon, Antonia in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* (J. Offenbach) at the Escales Lyriques Workshop, Ginevra in *Ariodante* (G. F. Händel) at the Schlosstheater Schönbrunn in Vienna, Dido in *Dido and Aeneas* (H. Purcell) at the Collegium Nobilium Theatre in Warsaw and Zofia in *Halka* (S. Moniuszko) at the Warsaw National Opera. Ms. Zamek is the recipient of many prizes in competitions, such as the Special Prize at the 19th Johannes Brahms International Competition in Pörschach (2012) and the 3rd Prize at the International Lied Competition in Sofia (2011). She was also a finalist at the International Dostal Operetta Competition in Korneuburg, Austria.⁶⁶

Barbara Zamek has completed a master level with Prof. Claudia Visca at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna with a Master Diploma and her bachelor studies at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw