

## **JOANNA HORODKO soprano**

A graduate of the Academy of Music in Poznań. She started her music education playing the piano at the age of 6. She completed the High School of Music in Poznań as a pianist. A laureate of numerous domestic and international competitions, among others a finalist and a holder of a special prize at the International Vocal Competition in Passau (Germany 2005), finalist of the 12<sup>th</sup> International Vocal Competition in Sicily (Italy 2009).

She has completed master classes conducted among others by Prof. Teresa Żylis-Gara, Prof. Waldemar Wild, Prof. Ryszard Karczykowski and Margherita Rinaldi. Between 2001-2007 she was a soloist singer at Teatr Wielki in Łódź, and between 2007-2008 a soloist at the Nova Opera in Bydgoszcz. She made her debut as Nannette in the premiere performance of G. Verdi's Falstaff, singing with Renato Bruson. This performance earned her a nomination for the Andrzej Hiolski Award in the category "the best operatic debut of the season 2001/2002".

In November 2006 she took part in celebrations of the Mozart Year in Salzburg, cast as Lubanara in the opera Der Stein der Weisen. She cooperates with philharmonic halls (e.g. in Gdańsk, Toruń, Płock, Wałbrzych, Lublin, Częstochowa, Elbląg, Słupsk, Bydgoszcz, Zielonagóra), the Royal Symphony Orchestra and theatres across Poland, e.g. Teatr Wielki in Poznań, the Baltic State Opera in Gdańsk, the Wrocław Opera, and the Music Theatres in Łódź, Poznań and Lublin. This cooperation earned her the Award of the Marshal of Lublin Province for outstanding artistic accomplishments in the season 2002/2003. The artist has sung abroad, e.g. in Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Sweden. She has frequently performed at celebrations of the National Day of France at the French Embassy and of Independence Day at the US Embassy. In 2019, she was invited to a special concert

in honor of the international celebration of the 200th birth anniversary of S. Moniuszko and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Celebrity Symphony Orchestra in Toronto / Canada.

In November 2008 Joanna Horodko performed the part of Violetta in G. Verdi's "La Traviata" in a super-production of the Music Theatre of Lublin. In 2010 and 2011 the artist has recorded CDs with a classical operatic repertory with the Orchestra of Land Armed Forces. In 2012 the singer is scheduled to record a CD with Polish songs. In December 2018, she appeared in the mega-production of the Sudeten Philharmonic "Two Elements". In April 2019, the artist again sang the part of Violetta in "La Traviata" - this time at Ernst Reuter Saal in Berlin. In December of the same year, she recorded a Polish-American concert of Christmas carols for TVP3 with the ORSP orchestra. In addition, she made recordings for TVP Kultura and the Institute of National Remembrance with the Music Theater in Poznań "Good Night" by H.M. Górecki. In 2021, she also released the album "Contemporary Song - Poznań Composers". For several years she has also been a juror at songs competitions.

The artist is especially fond of cantatas and oratorios, which she has presented e.g. at the First Festival of Sacred Music "Music at the Jesuits" (Łódź 2003), the International Festival of Chamber and Organ Music Trzebnica 2004 (with Prof. Teresa Żylis-Gara) at the Nova Opera in Bydgoszcz, in G.F. Handel's Messiah and in W.A. Mozart's Missa Pro Defuncto - „Requiem". From 2021, she is the artistic director of the Sacred Music Festival "Ave Maria".

In 2013, the artist obtained the degree doctor of art at the Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz, and in 2021 a post-doctoral degree from the Academy of Music in Poznań, where since 2016 she has been an assistant professor - singing teacher. In 2019, she was awarded badge of honour "Meritorious for Polish Culture" by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage.