## olograph



## **VENERA GIMADIEVA - SOPRANO**

"Aix-en-Provence may have adored Natalie Dessay, but Limoges now venerates Venera Gimadieva. She was more than equal to the challenges of this role, which demands absolute vocal and theatrical mastery... neither Callas nor Sutherland could have done a better job. There are many who bewail in specialist music publications that there are no more true Violettas, but Venera Gimadieva proves them all wrong." Le Populaire du Centre

Hailed as 'the new voice of Russia' and the star of the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, Venera Gimadieva has quickly become one of the most sought-after lyric coloratura sopranos in Europe. Her performances as Violetta La traviata have earned sensational reviews, with Opéra magazine describing her performance in Limoges as, "extraordinary...with her captivating timbre, her flexible yet powerful voice, her strong stage presence, and her true physical beauty (which never hurts), she will be a star before long".

Gimadieva studied at the Kazan Music College and the St. Petersburg State Conservatoire, later joining the St. Petersburg Opera where her roles included the title role of Donizetti's Lucia di Lammermoor, Gilda Rigoletto, Lucia The Rape of Lucretia, Serafina in Donizetti's Il campanello di note, and Genevieve Suor Angelica. She was a prize winner at the 2008 Rimsky-Korsakov International Competition in St Petersburg, the 2009 Competizione dell'Opera in Dresden, and the 2010 International Shalyapin Competition (first prize).

Having studied on the Bolshoi Theatre's young artists' programme, Gimadieva is now a member of the company, with roles at the theatre including Marfa The Tsar's Bride, Ksenia Boris Godunov, Amina in a new production of La Sonnambula, Violetta in a new production of La traviata by Francesca Zambello, the title role of Rimsky-Korsakov's *The Snow-Maiden*, the Queen of Shemakha in a new production of The Golden Cockerel by Kirill Serebriannikov and conducted by Vassily Sinaisky, Sirin in Rimsky-Korsakov's The Legend of the Invisible City of Kitezh and Maiden Fevronia, and Serpina in Pergolesi's La serva padrona. Concert performances in Moscow include Brahms's Ein deutsches Requiem with the Russian National Orchestra conducted by Mikhail Pletnev at the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall.

Recent engagements elsewhere include Violetta La traviata (Opéra de Limoges, Opéra de Reims, Hungarian State Opera and Savonlinna Opera Festival), and an appearance at the BBC Proms with the John Wilson Orchestra. Highlights of the 2013-14 season include Violetta at La Fenice and at the Glyndebourne Festival, and Gilda Rigoletto (Hungarian State Opera). Further ahead, roles include her first Juliette Roméo et Juliette opposite Juan Diego Flórez's first Roméo in Lima, and the title roles of Lucia di Lammermoor and Manon.

Venera Gimadieva is represented by Intermusica. January 2014 / 356 words. Not to be altered without permission. Please destroy all previous biographical material.

