



Iwona Sobotka achieved international acclaim as the Grand Prize winner of the Queen Elisabeth International Music Competition of Belgium. Other awards include the East & West Artists International Auditions in New York, where she was awarded her debut recital in Carnegie Hall.

Recent and upcoming projects include a return to the Komische Oper Berlin as *Pamina* in Barrie Kosky's production of *The Magic Flute* on tour to Australia and New Zealand, her debut at the Teatro de La Zarzuela in Madrid as *Esperanza* in Gimenez' *Maria del Pilar*, her

debut at the Baden-Baden Festival with the Berliner Philharmoniker conducted by Sir Simon Rattle as *Blumenmädchen* in Wagner's *Parsifal*, a return to the Polish National Opera in Warsaw as *Pamina* in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, to the Poznan Opera as *Violetta Valery* in *Traviata* and to the Opera Podlaska as *Mimi* in *La Boheme*.

In concert Iwona enjoys regular collaboration with Sir Simon Rattle which have recently included concerts with the Berlin Philharmonic (*Wagner's Parsifal in concert*), the London Symphony Orchestra (world premiere of the Norman's *A Trip to the Moon*) and will continue with her debut with the Staatskapelle Berlin (*Janacek's Glagolitic Mass*) and the City of Birmingham Orchestra (*Beethoven's 9th Symphony*). Other recent projects include concerts with the Orquesta Sinfonica Barcelona y Nacional de Catalunya (*Verdi's Requiem* at Palau de la Música Catalana), the Mahler Chamber Orchestra (*Beethoven's 9th Symphony* in Elbphilharmonie), the Kammerakademie Potsdam (*Beethoven's Missa Solemnis* in Konzerthaus Berlin), the Rundfunksinfonieorchester Berlin (*Beethoven's 9th Symphony in Berlin Philharmonie*), the Orquesta Sinfonica del Madrid (*Beethoven's 9th Symphony* in Auditorio Nacional), and the MDR Sinfonieorchester (*Brahms Ein Deutsches Requiem* in the Gewandhaus in Leipzig and Frauenkirchen Dresden) amongst others.

Her first stage appearances saw her sing *Ygraine* in Dukas' *Ariane et Barbe-Bleue* at the Opéra National de Paris in 2004, a role she later sang on tour during the company's guest performances in Japan. The following season she returned to Paris as *First Lady* in Mozart's *The Magic Flute* and also made her first appearance with the Polish National Opera in Warsaw as *Zuzia* in Moniuszko's

*Verbum Nobile*. She was also invited by Hansjörg Schellenberger to sing the main role, Vespina, in a concert performance of Haydn's *L'infedeltà delusa* in Milan and Munich with the Symphonieorchester of Bayerischen Rundfunks. In 2010, she made her debut in the Schleswig Holstein Musik Festival in the title role of Moniuszko's *Halka*, and continued that association in the summer of 2011 in the role of Liù in Puccini's *Turandot* to great critical acclaim. She made her Komische Oper Berlin debut as Pamina in Mozart's *The Magic Flute* directed by Barrie Kosky and also sang this role for a guest performance by the company at the Budapest Spring Festival, and in Warsaw for National Opera of Poland. Other roles with which she has enjoyed great success have included: Tatyana (Eugene Oniegin), Donna Anna (Don Giovanni) under the baton of Teodor Currentzis in Tchaikowsky Perm State Opera; Violetta (La Traviata), Pamina (The Magic flute) and Mimi (La Boheme) in Opera Podlaska in Bialystok; Tatyana (Eugene Oniegin) and Donna Anna (Don Giovanni) at the Grand Theater in Łódź; as well as Violetta (La Traviata) at the Grand Theater in Poznań.

A frequent concert performer, Iwona has sung Beethoven's *9th Symphony* on tour to Asia with the Berlin Philharmonic conducted by Sir Simon Rattle; and appeared with the London Symphony Orchestra, the Vienna Symphony, the NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchestra, the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, the Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg, has also worked with many of today's pre-eminent conductors including Sir Colin Davies, Sir Simon Rattle, Marco Armiliato, Sylvain Cambreling, Jesus Lopez Cobos, Juanjo Mena, and Massimo Zanetti.

In 2010, she participated in a 'Szymanowski Focus' program curated by the distinguished Polish pianist Piotr Anderszewski to promote the music of Karol Szymanowski with concerts in Wigmore Hall in London and Carnegie Hall in New York. She also contributed to a complete collection of Szymanowski's songs for Channel Classics alongside Polish tenor Piotr Beczala and was accorded with the distinction of the Fryderyk Award for this recording by the National Academy of Recording Arts in Poland. On a subsequent release for EMI Classics in 2006, she performed *Songs of a Fairytale Princess* with Sir Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, which received five stars in BBC Music Magazine.

Following her graduation from the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw, Iwona continued her studies with renowned artist and pedagogue Tom Krause at the Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofía in Madrid.