

KASSANDRA DIMOPOULOU

dramatic mezzo soprano

BIOGRAPHY

Kassandra was born in Thessaloniki, Greece. She's been studying music from a very young age and graduated with the higher degree already at the age of 16 with a Cello Diploma. She then continued her music studies in Germany (Hochschule für Musik, Detmold) where she discovered her passion for Opera and graduated with a Bachelor degree (Singing Diploma) specialised in Opera from the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst, Stuttgart. She did her Master in Arts at the Royal Academy of Music in London where she graduated with the highest of degrees and a special prize, the "DipRam", as a scholar from the "Leventis" foundation, the "Athena" Scholarship, the "Newton" Scholarship and the support of "Life.Action.Trust" and the "Josephine Baker Trust". Parallel to her music studies, she studied Physical Theatre and Contact Improvisation Dance in Bern, CH at the "On/Off" private studio for theatre and dance. Already a well known cellist in Greece, her passion for Opera won her over and after the end of her Bachelor studies, she dedicated herself to the operatic career, but never left the Cello, always playing in orchestras, chamber music ensembles, small concerts and creating unique performances where cello and voice are always combined.

Her operatic career started in Germany, where she first appeared as a soloist in many operatic festivals and later on bigger stages. She has already sung as a guest in Staatstheater Stuttgart, in Knoxville Opera (Tennessee, USA), Athens Epidaurus Festival (Odeon Herodes Atticus), Alexandria Opera House, Athens / Thessaloniki Concert Hall, Thessaloniki Opera, Monschau Klassik Festival, 16th International Ancient Greek Drama Festival (Ancient Theatre Curium, Cyprus), Immling Festival, Teatro Cilea (Reggio Calabria, Italy), a.o as well as in numerous concerts and recitals all over the world. Her repertoire includes debuts of most of the major roles for the dramatic mezzo soprano voice, such as: Amneris in G. Verdi's "Aida", Azucena in G. Verdi's "Il Trovatore", Herodias in R. Strauss' "Salome", Carmen in G. Bizet's "Carmen" a.o. In 2010 her name became internationally known as she sang the role of Contessa di Ceprano in the TV live broadcast of G. Verdi's "Rigoletto", next to the opera stars Placido Domingo and Ruggero Raimondi, under the baton of Maestro Zubin Mehta.

In 2012 she co founded the artistic group "Skull of Yorick Productions" and the "Opera Studio Skull of Yorick Productions" in London. After the end of her studies there, she returned to her hometown, Thessaloniki and created a young artists', powerful operatic scene, also co founding an opera festival, the "Greek Opera Festival". From 2015 until 2020 she has been the Artistic Director of the "Hellenic Opera Co.", a company founded around their team, and they managed to put on stage big operatic performances. In the video below, you can see what the star tenor and conductor Placido Domingo says about the actions of the team.

Kassandra has published a theatre play with music about Opera to be performed only by opera singers (it is the first play of the Trilogy "Canto Ergo Existo"). The title is "Opergatory", and was published in 2014 by "Zitros". Her second book, the second play from the Trilogy, "Mors Tua, Vita Mea", is going to be published in 2024.

She is currently living in Thessaloniki, Greece.