

CURRICULUM VITAE

PhD Natalia Afeyan

PERSONAL DETAILS

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Languages: English, German, Italian, Russian, Bulgarian, French, Armenian

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

1978 - graduated the Bulgarian Academy of Music with a Masters' Degree as a student of Prof. Ressa Koleva

1974 - graduated the Bulgarian High School of Music in the class of Elizabeth Rutgers

OTHER PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

2000 - master classes with Prof. Richard Miller, AATS (American Academy of Teachers of Singing)

1993-1995 - master classes with Janice Chapman, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London

1981 - 1983 - private lessons in Interpretation with Prof. Irina Stiglic and Prof. Peter Stabekoff, Sofia

1978 - private lessons in Singing with Cathy Berberian, Vienna

STAGE EXPERIENCE

VICTORIA STATE OPERA - MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA 1991 – 1998

Roles: Amneris ("Aida" by Verdi); Azucena ("Il trovatore" by Verdi); The Muse and Antonia's Mother ("Tales of Hoffman" by Offenbach); Carmen ("Carmen" by Bizet); Erda ("Das Rheingold" by Wagner)

CONCERT PERFORMANCES 1991-2003

Verdi - Requiem (Melbourne); Bach - Johannes Passion (Melbourne); Poulenc - Le marteau sans maître (Brisbane); Berio - Folk Songs (Melbourne); Schönberg - Pierrot lunaire (Melbourne, Sydney); Mahler - Das Lied von der Erde (Brisbane); Mahler - Kindertotenlieder (Melbourne); Mussorgsky - Songs and Dances of Death – London

BULGARIAN CHAMBER OPERA 1989 – 1991

Roles: The Mother ("Mavra" by Stravinsky); Rosina and Berta ("Il barbiere di Siviglia" by Rossini)

BULGARIAN NATIONAL OPERA 1985-1989

Roles: Carmen ("Carmen", Bizet); Sonya ("War and Peace", Prokofiev); Lola ("Cavaleria rusticana", Mascagni); The Fox ("Snow Tale", Genkov); Polly Peachum ("Beggar's Opera", Britten)

NATIONAL OPERA OF PLOVDIV 1983-1989

Roles: Feodor ("Boris Godunov", Mussorgsky); Carmen and Mercedes ("Carmen", Bizet); Prince Orlofsky ("Die Fledermaus", J. Strauss); Countess Rzevska ("Peter I", A. Petrov); Hänsel ("Hänsel und Gretel", Humperdink); Lola ("Cavaleria rusticana", Mascagni)

CONCERT PERFORMANCES - BULGARIA, GREECE, ITALY, AUSTRIA 1981-1990

Schönberg - Pierrot lunaire; Stravinsky - Pribaoutki; Stravinsky - Souvenirs de mon enfance; Mahler - Kindertotenlieder; Mozart - Requiem; Pergolesi - Stabat mater; numerous performances of new Bulgarian music

RECENT PERFORMANCES

2015-2016 – performances of "Pierrot lunaire", A. Schönberg (International Festival March Music Days 2015, BNR - Studio 1, SMA "Pancho Vladigerov", NBU UniArt); 2012 – Arnalta/Nutrice („L'incoronazione di Poppea", Monteverdi); International Festival March Music Days 2012; Classical Music International Festival Sofia Music Weeks (scheduled); 2009, 2008 – Classical Music Forum New Bulgarian Music

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2012 – NBU - PhD in Music. Thesis: *Vocal Pedagogy - a Holistic Approach*; **2005** - Lecturer in Singing and Interpretation at the New Bulgarian University, Sofia; **2005-2008** – Voice teacher at the National School of Music, Sofia; **1995-2005** - full-time Senior Lecturer in Voice, Acting for Singers and Vocal Ensembles - Melbourne University, VCA, Melbourne, Australia; **1992-2000** - part-time Lecturer in Singing, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia; **1996-2003** - part-time Lecturer in Singing and Interpretation, Australian Catholic University, Melbourne, Australia; **1996-2005** - guest Lecturer in Singing and Acting, Opera Studio, VCA, Melbourne, Australia

MASTER CLASSES

2015 - Conservatorio statale "G.B.Pergolesi", Fermo, Italy; **2011** – Conservatorio statale "G.B.Pergolesi", Fermo, Italy; **2011** – Monash University, Melbourne, Australia; **2005** - "Boris Christoff" Memorial House, Sofia, Bulgaria; **2003** - master classes in Interpretation of music by Slavic composers, Singapore; **1999-2001** - master classes in Interpretation of music by German composers of the 19th and 20th centuries, Sydney Conservatorim of Music, Sydney, Australia

STUDENTS: PRIZES AND AWARDS

2008 - International Singing Contest "Operalia" - Elena Xanthoudakis, III prize; **2008** - 4th International Singing Competition "The Crown of Turnovgrad", Bulgaria - Mark Fowler, I prize; **2006** - 9th International Mozart Competition, Salzburg, Austria - Elena Xanthoudakis, I prize; **2006 and 2005** - "Raina Kabaivanska" Foundation, Sofia, Bulgaria - Mark Fowler, I prize; **2004** - Australian Singer of the Year - Sydney, Australia - Mark Fowler, I prize; **2003** - Maria Callas International Singing Competition, Athens, Greece - Elena Xanthoudakis, Grand Prix; **2003** - Rachmaninoff Competition, St. Petersburg, Russia - Polina Volfson, III prize; **2002** - Covent Garden Award, London, UK - Michael Smallwood

PUBLICATIONS

A Clown's Journey – Colloquia Comparativa Litterarum, vol 7, 2021.

Biblical Stories in Opera – Colloquia Comparativa Litterarum, vol 6, 2020.

Delilah's Laugh – Literature: Delight and Challenge, University of Sofia, 2018

Holism in Vocal Pedagogy - NBU, 2014. ISBN 978-954-535-816-6

Pierrot lunaire: 3 X 7 - Annual Book of "N. Rilski" University, Blagoevgrad. Vol. 5, 2007.

The Wanton Orient, or the "Turkish" Theme in Mozarts' Operas - co-author Milena Kirova - "*Mozart - Literary plots and Contexts*". Publ. "Lettera", Plovdiv, 2007.

Lament for Carmen - "Voices. New Works in the Humanities by Balkan Women Writers". Publ. "Sonm", Sofia, 2005.

The Song and Solveig in Jovkova's Story "Solveigs' Song" - "*Classic and History of Literature*". Blagoevgrad, 2005.

Lights, Camera, Ariadne - The Observer, Melbourne. Vol. 3, 1999.

Words or Sentences; Notes or Phrases? - Monash University Press. Vol. 4, Melbourne, 1998.