

ELĪNA GARANČA Mezzo-soprano

Elīna Garanča was born into a musical family in Riga, Latvia. She began her professional career as a resident artist with the Sūdthüringischer Staatstheater in Meiningen where she appeared in many leading roles. She later appeared as a resident artist with Oper Frankfurt.

Since then, Elīna has established herself as one of the music world's major stars through her performances with leading opera companies and symphony orchestras around the world. She has captured critical and popular acclaim for her beautiful voice, intelligent musicianship, and compelling stage portrayals.

Among other roles, she is particularly famed for her portrayal as Bizet's Carmen which she has sung at both the Royal Opera House Covent Garden and Metropolitan Opera to critical acclaim; the NY Times named her "the finest Carmen in 25 years...". The Carmen production was broadcasted in more than 1,000 movie theatres worldwide and is one of the most viewed and successful "Live in HD" performances of the Metropolitan Opera.

Recent highlights include a new production of Samson et Dalila at Staatsoper Berlin with Daniel Barenboim where Elīna starred as Dalila, as well as she returned to the Metropolitan Opera as Marguerite in La damnation de Faust. During the 2020/21 season Elīna will make her role debuts as Amneris in Verdi's Aida at Opéra national de Paris and as Kundry in Wagner's Parsifal at the Wiener Staatsoper. She will also star at various festivals and galas throughout Europe, America, South America and beyond.

In September 2005 Elina became an exclusive artist with Deutsche Grammophon (DG). Her first solo recording 'Aria Cantilena' was released in March 2007 to great popular and critical acclaim. Two of her previous albums ('Romantique' and 'Meditation') both won an ECHO Klassik award. Her album 'Sol y Vida' was released in May 2019 and has been unanimously praised by the critics: "Garanča's selection of flamboyant Mediterranean and Latin American songs is a predictably good fit for her ripe and beguiling timbre." (Gramophone).

Elīna has been the recipient of many awards: Musical America's 'Vocalist of the Year' 2010; MIDEM's 'Singer of the Year' 2007 and the ECHO Klassik award for 'Female Singer of the Year' in 2007 and 2020. In May 2013, Elīna was honoured by the Wiener Staatsoper with the title of 'Kammersängerin'. One of the youngest recipients of the Award, she was honoured for her devotion to the House, singing over one hundred and forty performances of eighteen roles since her debut in the House in 2003.

Elīna appears regularly at the Metropolitan Opera, Wiener Staatsoper, ROH Covent Garden, Salzburg Festival, Festspielhaus Baden-Baden, Bayerisches Staatsoper Munich, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Carnegie Hall New York and Wigmore Hall London and continues to perform in various concerts, festivals and recitals all over the world.