

## **Maria Weiss**

*Mezzo soprano*

“Her voice is tremendous, and the continued suspense of her stage presence is breathtaking”, “a marvellous mezzo soprano with organ-like depths” and “a vocal and acting synthesis of arts” are just some of the things that reviewers have said of the Austrian mezzo soprano Maria Weiss.

The mezzo soprano was just a child when she discovered her love for singing and early music. She studied solo performance at the Luigi Cherubini State Conservatory in Florence, the University of Music and Performing Arts in Graz and acting at the Lee Strasberg Theater & Film Institute in New York.

She has performed with orchestras including the Bach Consort Vienna, Klangforum Wien, L'Orfeo Barockorchester, Ensemble Claudiana, Harmony of Nations Baroque Orchestra, Il Concerto Tivoli, Camerata Argentea, A Corte Musical, Capella Leopoldina, Graz Symphony Orchestra and the Vorarlberg Symphony Orchestra and has established herself as an outstanding interpreter of early music with a mezzo soprano voice that reviewers have described as "beautiful", "clearly timbred and flawlessly guided", and "softly floating”.

The repertoire of the singer, who speaks five languages, consists of early and contemporary music, Bach, Mozart and Offenbach, and particularly first performances of forgotten works. Her artistic path has been shaped by collaborations with directors such as Frank Castorf, Philippe Arlaud, Seollyeon Konwitschny, John Lloyd Davies and Kobie van Rensburg and with musical partners such as Stefan Asbury, Domingo Hindoyan, Michi Gaigg, David Levi, Rubén Dubrovsky, Gérard Korsten, Rogério Gonçalves and Franco Pavan.

Notable engagements include the Wiener Festwochen, Wiener Konzerthaus, Graz Opera House, Händel Festival in Halle, Theater an der Rott (Germany), trigonale. festival of early music, Festspielhaus Bregenz, Feldkirch Festival, Festspielhaus Dornbirn, Donaufestwochen im Strudengau, BOV Opera Festival at the Teatru Manoel in Valetta (Malta) and Ateneu Barcelonés in Spain.

As a Lied singer, Maria Weiss, under the guidance of Teresa Berganza and Isabel Aragón, has specialised in Spanish and Latin American repertoire (especially the songs of De Falla, Granados, Guridi, Montsalvatge, Rodrigo, Leon and Villa-Lobos).

Her stage presence was described as that of a “gifted singer-actress” in a review by the *Kritisches Journal für Alte Musik*.

She regularly appears in short films, feature films and commercials, and has worked with directors such as Anja Salomonowitz, Oskar Roehler, Christopher Schlier, Martin Aamund, Phil Moran, Ronald Unterberger, Thomas Woschitz and Quadmo Quintero.

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