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## Carla Regina, Vocalist



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## Biography

Carla Regina began her musical career as a pianist at age 3, and received her degree in pianoforte at the Conservatorium Niccolò Piccinni of Bari in 1992. She began studying voice at age 18 with the Bulgarian mezzosoprano Eugenia Dundekova and later with the distinguished soprano Floriana Cavalli, receiving degrees in vocal chamber music (1996) and classical voice (1999) from the prestigious Conservatorium Giuseppe Verdi in Milan, Italy where she studied with Daniela Uccello and Sonia Turchetta. Her education was completed by voice masterclasses with Elio Battaglia, Gabriella Ravazzi, Thomas Quastoff, William Matteuzzi, Valerie Guillorit, and acting classes of Strasberg method. (Actor's Studio Roma 2002).

As a pianist, she received a scholarship to LaScala theater as correpetitor at age 22. She has worked in the same capacity for eminent conductor Claudio Abbado and John Elliott Gardiner at the Teatro Comunale di Ferrara she realized that singing was her true calling.

Carla made her debut as a mezzo-soprano in Haydn's oratorio "Applausus" at the Festival de Haute Limoges in France in 1998. She has performed operatic roles, which included Maddalena in Verdi's Rigoletto, Emilia in Rossini's Othello and Isaura in Tancredi, Contessa in Umberto Giordano's Il Mese Mariano, Fortunata in Maderna's Satyricon. Singing engagements with some of Europe's finest orchestras have included the Bacchus Ensemble, Stuttgart Philharmonic Orchestra, Ensemble Contrait, Divertimento Ensemble, Nederlandse Promenade Orkest, and the Italian orchestra, I Pomeriggi Musicali where she has the privilege of performing with the soprano, Renata Scottò. In 2003, she took center stage in the title role of Georges Bizet's Carmen in The Netherlands, returning to the role in 2004 with 12 sold out performances to a house of 1400 attendees for each evening.

She has appeared at opera houses, concert halls and festivals in Europe, and in the world such as the Grachtenfestival, Uitmarkt Festival in The Netherlands; Lugano Concert Hall in Switzerland, Baden Powell Theatre in Brazil, Haute Limoges Festival and Atelier Musicale del XX Seclè in France, Sala Verdi, Milan and Baveno Opera Festiva, Teatro Sperimentale di Spoleto in Italy, Schleswig-Holstein Festival and Rossini in Wildbad Festival in Germany, and the Den Enden Opera House in Denmark. She made her American singing debut for the Valley Symphony Orchestra at the Lavc Auditorium in Los Angeles, USA., in 2004.

Her passion for music theater and the versatility of her voice, leads her to perform contemporary music (a.o. "Exerto de uma Ode" van Arno Dieteren in Maastrich, Dallapiccola's "Le parole di San Paolo" in Milan,) and to be the ideal performer for new composers. She appears regularly also as oratorio singer as solist with choirs such as Nuova Polifonica Ambrosiana and Camerata Polifonica di Milano, Italy, and with different choirs in The Netherlands, also in duo with organist Marion Ittner.

She has appeared on Danish, Dutch, Brazilian television and for the satellite Italian Pugliachannel and has recorded for the Italian label Bongiovanni. The 2004 production of Carmen has been released on DVD, May 11, 2004.

In March 2006 she fulfilled her passion for musical theater writing, directing and performing the one-woman show "Music for a while" at Het Fijnhout Theater in Amsterdam, NL. The show in which the versatile artist performs as an opera/contemporary music singer, and actress proved to be a great success, also for its Italian premiere (May 2007). In 2008, she adds a new title to her list writing, directing and performing the music theater show "Het leven is een opera" ("Life is an opera") where she sings opera arias from Handel to Verdi. The whole project, show, and workshop is released on DVD. In 2009, the Foundation "Voice, Actually!" was born which produces all the shows of the singer. In 2010, she toured the Netherlands and Italy with her show "In viaggio" where she sings classical songs (Mahler, Schubert, Montsalvatge, De Falla) and Italian folk songs.

In 2001, Carla received the Premio Assami award for Contemporary music and the Oscar della Musica award for Best Young Italian Performer in The Netherlands (appointed by the Italian Consulate in Amsterdam). In 2007 she has been awarded with the Premio Leonardiano Speciale per la Musica, in Italy.

# Critical Acclaim

"The mezzo from Bari, Italy, has lots of the elements of an ideal Carmen: a powerful dramatic mezzoprano sound, a sensual look matched with a brilliant acting talent"

*-The Westland Courant-The Netherlands*

"A success turned to triumph with the audience charmed by her enchanting voice and stage presence.."

*-Italia amiga-Brasilonline-Brasil,*

"...the Italian singer gets a personal affirmation giving her character...intense and dramatic color."

*-Orpheus- Germany*

"...with a great deal of confidence and nonchalance,, the singer showcases not only her vocal skills, but also her theatrical skills, and quite a stage presence .."

*-Primo piano-Italy*

" She conveys music, singing, acting in a modern yet classical way, matching an expressive stage presence with a beautiful voice, full, intense and vibrant.. "

*-Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno-Italy*

.."Her voice is a powerful and intense instrument, it comes straight to your heart. The complete mastering of her voice and her versatility are the strongest points of Carla Regina, italian mezzo of many colours and nuances"

*- Corriere del Teatro, Italy*

.."The classical trained Regina proves in this show that she is at home in different styles. She sings art songs, and italian folk ballads in a wonderful way..... her versatility is astounding."

*-Parool-The Netherlands*

# Curriculum Vitae

## Education

solo piano diploma  
Conservatory of Bari (It) 10-10-1992

vocal chamber music  
diploma Conservatory of Milan (It) 08-07-1996

singing diploma  
Conservatory of Milan (It) 09-07-1999

acting course  
G.Solfato 1990-92

acting course P.D.?  
Ascola 1997-99

acting course  
G.Cantalini 2002

## Masterclasses

International School  
*H. Wolf Deutsche Lied* E.Battaglia Aquasparta (It) 1994/1995

International School  
*Mozarteum Deutsche Lied* E.Battaglia Salzburg (A) 1995

Jazz and Musical  
Masterclass *Singing* M.Waldron,G.Ravazzi Loano (It) 1996

Rossini in Wildbad  
Festival *Opera* W. Matteuzzi Wildbad (D) 1999

Belcanto Festival *Opera*  
W. Matteuzzi Dordrecht (NL) 1999

Rossini in Wildbad  
Festival *Opera* W. Matteuzzi Wildbad (D) 2000

Schleswig-Holstein  
Festival *Oratorio/Lied* T. Quasthoff Lübeck (D) 2001

## Awards

National Award for  
Contemporary music *Assami* 2001

International Prize  
for young talents *Oscar della Musica* 2001

Prize Leonardiano  
(achievements in Music) 2007

## Languages

Italian, English, Dutch

## Various Artistic Activities

Opera and lied  
accompanist 1992-1995

Stage as Stage  
Director *Teatro alla Scala* Milano(It) 1992-1993

Stage as Stage  
Director *Teatro Comunale* Treviso(It) 1992-1993

Correpetitor at  
*Teatro Comunale* Ferrara (It) 1993-1996

Piano Assist. Vocal  
Chamber Music Masterclass *Tito Gobbi* Academy Pavia(It) 1997-1998

Singing teacher,  
Opera and Jazz *Civica Scuola di Musica* Sondrio (It) 1997-1999

Vocal Coach  
Assistant (Sandra Booker) *Valtellina Jazz Festival* Sondrio (It) 1999

Vocal Coach *Het*  
*Klooster* Woerden (NI) 2005-present

Artistic director  
“Opera productions” *Het klooster* Woerden (NI) 2005-present