



Lily Zhang

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Lily Zhang- BIOGRAPHY

Li(Lily) Zhang, Best soprano and gearest voice professor of China, was catapulted into China's opera scene with her successful debut as Fanyi in "Thunderstorm" at the Shanghai Opera House as the highlights of 2001's Shanghai International Spring Music Festival. The leading role-Fanyi was chosen by audition from hundreds opera singers from conservatories of music and opera houses from throughout China.

In the reviews that followed the performances Lily was praised for her talent, agility, legato line, high pianissimo and her beautiful stage presence and acting by the China Music Weekly. She was called a "the embodiment of the role of Fanyi" by the People's Music, and was compared to grand artist Mirella Freni by the famous music critic and Chief Editor of China Music Weekly Zhou Guoan. Lily's voice is filled with operatic passion and fire, and is equally adept with delicate and lyrical art songs which are enjoyed by her fans worldwide.

During the years that have followed her debut, Dr. Zhang has sung on the Great Wall, Beijing, China in 2002, at the 81st Hollywood Bowl Easter Sunrise Services, Los Angeles in 2003, at the Great Hall of People (the Chinese "White House"), Beijing, China in 2004, China Film's Songs 100 Anniversary Ceremony, Shanghai, China in 2005, Lily's Solo Recital at China National Grand Theater, Beijing, China in 2008, Shanghai Charitable New Year's Concert in 2009, many grand concerts and special programs for Lily only held by CCTV, Shanghai TV, Sichuan TV among others. More than 1.3 billion Chinese audiences have seen Lily's performances, concerts, operas, festivals and recitals, as well as special programs by CCTV's Channel Four (International Channel) which covers whole the world.

Lily is known for performing a wide range of repertoire including most of the heroines, Bel Canto rarities including numerous performances of the Bel Canto pinnacle role. She sings fluent in many languages(Italian, German, French, English, Latin and Chinese). Her repertoire features arias from "Cosi Fan Tutte", "Le nozze di Figaro", "Die Zauberflute", "La Wally", "Audrea Chenier", "La figlia del reggimento", "The Barber of Seville", "Il Pagliacci", "Tosca", "Manon Lescaut", "Madam Butterfly", "Gianni Schicchi", "La Rondine", "Faust", "Carmen", "Les Pecheurs dePerles", "Il trovatore", "Ernani", "La Traviata " and hundreds Chinese folk songs and etc. Lily has been featured as a soloist with the greatest artists performing Piano, Flute, Violin in China and abroad.

Dr. Zhang is the first soprano to win the grand title "Top Ten Singers in China" three times. She is the first Chinese voice professor to be recognized by American universities which bestowed upon her the honorable doctorates again and again, which is the first such degree ceremony held at the Great Hall of People's (Chinese White House) in 2009 in Beijing, China; the first Chinese artist win the Super Star Halo Award from the Southern California Motion Picture Council; the first Chinese artist awarded the Certificate of Commendation by U.S. Congresswoman Dr. Diane E. Watson; she was also honored to be the first singer that the President of China accompanied on the piano. Dr. Zhang is the first voice professor invited by China

State Center for Performance Arts in Beijing to have her solo recital and master class there. In October 3rd, 2008 she was named as "Li Zhang (Lily)Day" in the City of Southfield, Michigan, USA, which is the first Chinese artist honored in the history of the City. Lily is the recipient of hundreds awards and prizes from in China and throughout the world.

Lily is the Artist and Voice Professor in Residence at Sichuan Conservatory of Music, Chengdu, China and resides in the US and China as an International Ambassador between the two countries. Lily has her concerts and master class at campuses in the United States and China.

From 1999, she studies voice with Mrs. Martile Rowland, "Classical Singer Magazine " 2006 Teacher of the Year. In September 2010 Lily was promoted as the Chair of Opera & Chorus Department of Sichuan Conservatory of Music in Chengdu, China, which is one of biggest conservatory in the world with more than 16,000 students and more than 1,000 pianos. Lily's voice department is the biggest department in the world with more than 1,200 current full time voice students. This kind department of combination opera and chorus is the only one in China.

Dr. Qihui Wu , Chinese top voice professor commented on Lily's CD recorded in 2009 as "the best soprano in the world, today's M.Maria Callas but more smooth than Callas from high tone to bass". So far Lily is the only soprano in China that can sing from high tone to bass smoothly. She is the only voice professor in the world that can teach both western opera and and Chinese folk song as well as sing both western opera and Chinese folk song at the world top class level.