

ROXANA CONSTANTINESCU, Mezzo-soprano

Roxana Constantinescu had already enjoyed several earlier competition successes in Belgium, Romania, Munich and Cologne, but it was as the winner of the prestigious ARD Music Competition in September 2006 that her international career was launched. Ms Constantinescu subsequently joined the Ensemble at Vienna's State Opera in the 2007/2008 season making an important debut while touring with the company as Cherubino/*Le Nozze di Figaro*, conducted by Seiji Ozawa.

This season's highlights include the debut as Donna Elvira in a new production at the Vienna State Opera, the title role in "La Cenerentola" in a new staging at the Minnesota Opera, new productions of "Oberon" and "Cosi fan tutte" at the Theatre du Capitole in Toulouse and her debut with Los Angeles Opera, in the premiere of "Cosi fan tutte".

In Vienna, where Roxana remained in the Ensemble through the end of the 2009/2010 season, further roles and experience to date have included Zerlina/*Don Giovanni*; Rosina/*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*; Siébel/*Faust*; Stéphano/*Roméo et Juliette*; Lola/*Cavalleria Rusticana*; Nicklausse/*Les Contes d'Hoffmann*; Dryade/*Ariadne auf Naxos*, Fjodor/*Boris Godunov*, etc.

After another prize-winning success at Italy's "Tito Schipa" Singing Competition, Roxana Constantinescu was invited to make her debut as Angelina/*La Cenerentola* at the Teatro Politeama di Lecce and went on to appear as Rosina/*Il Barbiere di Siviglia* at Austria's Tirol Festival. It was also as Rosina that Roxana enjoyed great acclaim in Cologne when she took over their opening night at short notice in September 2007.

Other operatic appearances to date have included Ramiro/*La finta giardiniera* and Hermia/*A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Munich's Prinzregententheater; Conception/*L'heure espagnole* at Italy's Teatro Diego Fabbri; Holofernes/*Juditha Triumphans* at Munich's House of Art and Prince Orlovsky/*Die Fledermaus* at both Bucharest's State Opera and Essen's Philharmonie.

As a concert singer, Roxana Constantinescu is in high demand and has debuted at Carnegie Hall and Chicago's Symphony Hall singing Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Pierre Boulez. This performance led to her nomination for "The Grammy Music Awards". Roxana enjoys an ongoing relationship with Helmuth Rilling and has performed with him around the world in music by Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Mendelssohn. Other conductors with whom Roxana Constantinescu has enjoyed collaborations include Gerd Albrecht, Marco Armiliato, Bertrand de Billy, Paolo Carignani, Dan Ettinger, Adam Fischer, Manfred Honeck, Sir Neville Marriner, Kirill Petrenko, Christoph Poppen, Yannik Nézet-Séguin, Peter Schneider, Sebastian Weigle, Franz Welser-Möst, etc.

Also an avid recitalist Roxana Constantinescu has performed in Bucharest, London, Vienna, Frankfurt, Munich, New York and Washington as well as extensively in the Far East. In the past season she was presented in recital at Vienna's famous Musikverein as well as in Goethe's House in Weimar. Even at this early stage in her career, Roxana Constantinescu has already participated in numerous recordings for Haenssler Classic, OEHMS Classics, SWR, Artmode Records, Weltbild and Carus Verlag.

Born in Bucharest, Roxana Constantinescu firstly studied percussion and piano at the George Enescu Music Academy, continuing with voice studies at the National University of Music. In

2003 she was awarded an Erasmus Scholarship to attend Vienna's prestigious University of Music and Fine Arts, and a DAAD scholarship enabled her to attend Postgraduate Studies at the University of Music and Theater in Munich with Edith Wiens.