

# APA Artists' Management



## ALEXANDRA DURSENEVA – Mezzo-Contralto

Born in Kharkov into an operatic family, Alexandra Durseneva graduated from the Kharkov Institute of Arts and became a soloist with the Kharkov Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre where she performed many leading roles.

She went on to become a laureate of the International Glinka Singing Competition. In 1994 she won the International Chamber Singing Competition "The Amber Nightingale" in Kaliningrad, Russia and joined the Bolshoi Opera Company the same year. Since then she has performed at the Bolshoi such parts as **Vanya** in Glinka's **IVAN SUSSANIN**, **Konchakovna** in Borodin's **PRINCE IGOR**, **Basmanov** in Tchaikovsky's **THE OPRICHNIK**, **Martha** in **IOLANTA**, the **Nurse** in **EUGENE ONEGIN**, **Marfa** in Mussorgsky's **KHOVANSCHINA**, **Liubasha** in Rimsky-Korsakov's **THE TSAR'S BRIDE**, **Clarice** in Prokofiev's **THE LOVE FOR THREE ORANGES**, and **La Princesse de Bouillon** in Cilea's **ADRIANA LECOUVREUR**.

In 1995, Alexandra Durseneva became a Laureate of the *International Moniuzsko Singing Competition* in Warsaw. The same year she took part in Rimsky-Korsakov's **The Legend of the Invisible City of Kitezh** production at the Bregenz-Festspiele. In 1997 she returned to Bregenz to appear in Rubinstein's **THE DEMON** and appeared in the concert version of **THE DEMON** under Vladimir Fedoseev in the Wiener Concert Haus in 1998.

In the 1998/99 Season Alexandra Durseneva enjoyed great success as **Amelfa** in Rimsky-Korsakov's **THE GOLDEN COCKEREL** at the Covent Garden. In the summer of 1999, she returned to London with the Bolshoi Opera Company as the **Innkeeper** in Mussorgsky's **BORIS GODUNOV**. A few months later she again appeared in this role in the Opera Ireland production in Dublin.

Recent engagements include **Podtochina** in Shostakovich's **THE NOSE** in Leipzig and **Amelfa** at the Ravenna Festival with the Bolshoi Opera. In the role of **Mistress Quickly** in Verdi's **FALSTAFF** she had considerable success in Leipzig both with the public and the press. She also performed Janacek's **MISSA GLACOLITICA** in Madrid, Stravinsky's **MAVRA** in St. Petersburg and in Jena, Germany; **THE TSAR'S BRIDE** in the Wiener Konzerthaus and **Martha** in **IOLANTA** in Copenhagen, in which role she made her debut at Teatro alla Scala in 2002. Other appearances in 2002 were as **Podtochina** in **THE NOSE** in Amsterdam, she appeared in the cantata **ALEXANDER NEVSKY** by Prokofiev in Dresden and sang the **Innkeeper** in **BORIS GODUNOV** for the Deutsche Oper Berlin. In 2003 she appeared in a new production of **THE OPRICHNIK** in Cagliari, in the trouser role of **Basmanov**.

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Also in 2003 Alexandra Durseneva sang the role of **Baba the Turk** in Stravinsky's **RAKE'S PROGRESS** and **Ratmir** in concert performances, both for Moscow's Bolshoi Theatre. In May that year she took part in the Bolshoi Theatre's Tour of Spain and Portugal singing excerpts from **PRINCE IGOR** by Borodin. In June she travelled to Riga, also with the Bolshoi, to sing **Clarice** in **THE LOVE FOR THREE ORANGES** by Prokofiev. In October she took part in concert performances of Tchaikovsky's **EUGENE ONEGIN** in Montreal, Canada.

In 2004, Alexandra Durseneva participated in the concert of soloists of the Bolshoi Opera in Helsinki, sang **Lyubasha** at the Samara Spring Festival and appeared in the Bolshoi performances of **THE FIERY ANGEL** in Moscow. She also took part in the Arnhem Festival in the Netherlands, where she sang the **Mother** in Stravinsky's **MAVRA** and returned to the Netherlands later that year to perform the same role in other venues. At the end of 2004, she appeared as **Sonetka** in the Bolshoi's opening of **LADY MACBETH OF MZENSK** and made her Bolshoi debut as **Ulrica** in Verdi's **UN BALLO IN MASCHERA**.

March 2005 was very special for Alexandra: she gave birth to her daughter Lyubasha and was awarded the title of Merited Artist of Russia and in July, she was already back on stage singing the **Mother Superior** in the Bolshoi performances at the Ljubljana Music Festival in Slovenia.

In March 2006, she made her debut as **Spring** in Rimsky-Korsakov's **THE SNOW MAIDEN** and in the summer she performed **the Duenna** in Prokofiev's **BETROTHAL IN A MONASTERY** at the Glyndebourne Festival.

Recently she appeared as **Ulrica UN BALLO IN MASCHERA** for Vest Norges Opera, as **the Duenna BETROTHAL IN A MONASTERY** in Valencia conducted by Dimitri Jurowski and at Teatro alla Fenice Venezia as **The Nurse BORIS GODOUNOV**. She sang **Marta IOLANTA** in a concert performance at London's Festival Hall with the London Philharmonic Orchestra under Vladimir Jurowski and **Fenena NABUCCO** at the Bolshoi Theatre.

She has worked with many of the world's leading conductors including Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Vladimir Fedoseev, Andrei Chistiakov, Michail and Vladimir Jurovsky, Dimitri Jurovsky, Mark Ermler, Yuri Temirkanov and among the directors with whom she has worked are - Harry Kupfer, Sir Peter Ustinov, Tim Hoppkins, Lamberto Pugelli, Graham Vick, David Pountney and Francesca Zambello.

As well as her operatic career, Alexandra Durseneva has a vast concert repertory and regularly appears on the concert platform and in recital. She gave her first recital at the Beethoven Hall of the Bolshoi Theatre where she presented **SONGS AND DANCES OF DEATH** by Mussorgsky as well as vocal cycles by Schumann and Brahms.

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