

Life story Pavla Vykopalova

While still a student at the Prague State Conservatory Pavla Vykopalová was invited to sing in productions by Opera Mozart. Shortly after graduating she joined the opera company in Plzeň (western Bohemia), singing among other parts the title role in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*. Trained as a mezzo-soprano under Professor Jiří Kotouč, in 2006 she switched smoothly to soprano roles. Presently she is coached by Professor Marie Urbanová.

Ms. Vykopalová's repertoire includes operatic roles ranging from the Baroque to the Romantic period as well as oratorios, cantatas, and songs in styles from Baroque to contemporary.

Since 1999 she has been a regular guest of the National Theatre of Prague, singing most of the leading Mozart roles including Zerlina, Donna Elvira, Pamina, Fiordiligi, Vitellia, and the Countess, as well as Mařenka in Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*, Pascaline in Martinů's *The Plays of Mary*, and, most recently, Antonia in Offenbach's *The Tales of Hoffmann* and the title role in Janáček's *Jenůfa*. The spring of 2003 saw her successful debut at the Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris as Karolka in Janáček's *Jenůfa*.

Her regular guest appearances with the Prague State Opera have included Beatrice in Berlioz's *Beatrice et Benedict*, Rosina in Rossini's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, Pamina in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* and, most recently, the title role in Dvořák's *Rusalka*, and Mimi in Puccini's *La Bohème*, and Desdemona in Verdi's *Otello*.

In January 2009 she joined the National Theatre of Brno as a regular soloist, singing Mařenka in Ondřej Havelka's highly acclaimed production of *The Bartered Bride*—a role that brought her a nomination for the prestigious Czech theatrical 'Thalia' award in 2006—as well as Lauretta in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, Nedda in Leoncavallo's *I Pagliacci*, the title role in Martinů's *Juliette*, Liù in Puccini's *Turandot*, Micaela in Bizet's *Carmen*, the title roles in Janáček's *Jenůfa* and Dvořák's *Rusalka*, Míla in Janáček's *Fate*, and Rosalinda in *Die Fledermaus* by Johann Strauss.

Also extensive is her concert activity both at home and abroad, including sacred works and songs.

In numerous concerts and opera performances she has collaborated with renowned Czech and foreign conductors such as Jiří Bělohlávek, Jiří Kout, Elisha Inbal, Iván Fischer, Jakub Hrůša, Kaspar Zehnder, Sylvain Cambreling, Leopold Hager, and Ascher Fisch. She has sung in concerts with the Prague Symphony Orchestra, the Czech Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, the Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden, the Budapest Festival Orchestra and the Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra.

In the autumn of 2011 she appeared with great success as Janáček's *Jenůfa* in a coproduction by three French theatres—in Rennes, Limoges, and Reims. In June 2012 she performed the song cycle *Shéhérezade* by Maurice Ravel and the soprano solo Leonard Bernstein's *Kaddish* symphony with the conductor Elisha Inbal with the Czech Philharmonic. In 2012 she was nominated for 'Thalia' award for the title part of Míla in Janáček's *Fate*. In the autumn of 2013 she sang the title role in Janáček's *Kát'a Kabanová* in the Danish National Opera, and in May 2014 she participated in a tour with the conductor Iván Fischer and the Budapest Festival

Orchestra, singing the title role in a concert performance of Dvořák's *Rusalka*. In June 2014 she reprised Bernstein's *Kaddish* in the Alte Oper, Frankfurt.

Ms. Vykopalová may be heard on several compact disc recordings, such as *The Czech Christmas Mass* by J. J. Ryba (on the Multisonic label), Antonín Rejcha's cantata *Lenora* (*Orfeo*), and compositions for voice and organ by Bedřich Antonín Wiedermann (*Rosa*) with organist Irena Chříbková.