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LUDOVIT LUDHA



Ludovít Ludha graduated from the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava under the guidance of Prof. Vlasta Hudecová. During his studies he completed a tour through Italy, interpreting Beethoven's Mass in C Major.

In 1987, he came first in a national competition of students studying music at universities in Czechoslovakia. In the same year he performed part of Schoenberg's Moses and Aaron, directed by J. P. Ponello and conducted by James Levine. The positive response to his performance earned him a return invitation the following year. These milestones represented the dawn of his promising international career.

Ludha has been a soloist of the Opera of the Slovak National Theatre in Bratislava since 1988, where he has presented a diverse range of solo tenor parts.

In 1989 he appeared in Linz and Innsbruck in The Book with Seven Seals by F. Schmidt, and the following year recorded the first release of the opera Memento by J. Filas for Czech Television. This opera won silver at the Festival of TV Productions in Salzburg. Since that time Ludha has been a regular performer at theatres, concerts, and festivals in Italy, Germany, Austria, France, Switzerland, Spain, Hungary, Denmark, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Russia, Czech Republic, Turkey, Israel, Egypt, Ireland, Portugal, Luxembourg, Argentina, Canada, USA and Japan.

Among his notable annual appearances we can mention: Columbus by W. Egon and Janáček's Fate (Konzerthaus, Vienna 1992); Coronation Mass by Mozart (Salzburg, 1993); Duke by Rigoletto-Verdi (Japan); and his collaboration with James Judd in the introduction of Stravinsky's Wedding (Montpellier, 1994). In Liverpool

he collaborated with J. Bělohlávek in *Gilgamesh*, and many times at the Wexford Festival (*Mascagni Iris*, Osaka).

The Paris premiere of the *Glagolitic Mass* and *Fatetook* place in 1995, and he appeared in *Teatro dell'Opera* in Rome (same as Osaka) alternating with José Cura and co-performing with Nikolai Giamurov; the premiere of Korngold's work *The Dead City* in Kyoto, Japan followed a year later (1996). In 1997, Ludha comprised one of the three tenors at a concert by the Cairo pyramids, and gained success in Graz, Linz and Villach (Austria) and in the *Glagolitic Mass* (Lisbon). Following his appearance in *Šárka*, the opera *The Charlatan* gave a dramaturgical accent to the Irish Wexford Festival in 1998. In addition, he performed in Dvořák's *Stabat Mater* and Mozart's *Requiem* in Ankara.

In 1999 he enjoyed great success in Utrecht and Amsterdam where he collaborated in introducing Dvořák's *Stabat Mater*, and in Metz in *Eugen Onegin*. In New York (Carnegie Hall) and Montreal Ludha performed in *King Roger* (Szymanowski) and in *Teatro La Fenice* (Venice) in *The Adventures of Vixen Sharp-Ears* (Janáček). For the performance of Mozart's *Requiem* in Prague, he sang under the guidance of Sir Neville Marriner. Based on personal lead singing, he was selected by Rostropovič for performances of *Katerina Zmailova* (Zinovij) in Madrid, Naples, Munich, Dijon and Buenos Aires. In the meantime, he made a successful debut impact as *Vitek* in *The Makropulos Affair* (Montpellier), in the *Glagolitic Mass* (Taipei), and in *Stravinský's Oidipus Rex* (Théâtre des Champs Élysées, Paris).

Highlights of the millennium year included concerts in Dvořák's *Requiem* (Manchester) and *Stabat Mater* (Leeds).

In 2001 Ludha was once again invited to perform in Paris (Szymanowski's *Symphony No. 3*, conducted by Kachidze), Budapest (*Oedipus Rex*), Bologna and Parma (*Carmina Burana*), Palermo and Catania (Bellini: *Messa in la Minore*), and in Leipzig he sang the *Glagolitic Mass* together with Prokina, Tarasova and Kocherga under the guidance of Janowsky. In Leverkusen he appeared with the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra in *The Psalm of the Sub-Carpathian Land* (Suchoň), and in Osaka and Tokyo he interpreted *The Dead City* (Korngold).

In March 2002 he performed in Sao Paolo in works by Kodály and Bartók. In recent years Ludha has performed in Mozart's *Requiem* in Athens; he sang Janáček's *Amarus* in Lisbon and returned to *King Roger* in Tokyo and Osaka; in Birmingham he appeared in Szymanowski's *Symphony No. 3*, and was a guest at the Amsterdam opera production of Shostakovich's *The Nose*. At the English Garsington Festival he starred as *Ctirad* in Janáček's *Šárka*. At *Teatro Comunale* in Bologna, he represented *Jeník* in Smetana's *Bartered Bride* under the guidance of Jurowski, and in Amsterdam he sang the *Glagolitic Mass* under the guidance of Rozhdestvensky.

In June 2003, Ludha performed Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* during a concert tour in Luxembourg and Germany. In September he sang the *Glagolitic Mass* in Sydney, and in November he was *Malatestino* at the Rome Opera in *Francesca da Rimini* (Zandonai). His performance was highly heralded at the Amsterdam Opera once again, this time in *Iolanta* (Tchaikovsky), and in Budapest he sang tenor in Verdi's *Requiem* under the guidance of Fruhbeck de Burgos. At the Opera in Bratislava, he sang the role of Tonio in Donizetti's *The Daughter of the Regiment*, directed by Jozef Bednárík.

He was one of the performers of the *Glagolitic Mass* in Berlin and in the "festival town" Ravenna (2004). In the *Sferisterio* arena in Macerata, he returned to his success singing the role of *Malatestino* with Dessi, Armiliato, and Mastromarino under the guidance of Maurizio Barbicani. This was followed by a series of concerts in Vienna, performances in Prague and Brno, *The Bartered Bride* in Zurich, concerts (with the Czech Philharmonic) and a tour through Japan (*La Traviata*), a concert in Linz, guest appearances at the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg, France (Nantes – *Le Nos*) and Germany. He also made standout appearances at

the Opera of the Slovak National Theatre and the State Opera in Prague as the Prince (directed by Zdeněk Troška). He interpreted Janáček's Glagolitic Mass in Sao Paulo and Finland (2005), and triumphantly returned to the production of King Roger in Palermo.

In March 2006 he collaborated with the Bamberg Symphony for two concerts, recorded Massenet's Marie-Magdeleine with the Slovak Philharmonic, and from April to June was guest singer in Amsterdam in the production of Katerina Zmalkova.

2007 saw performances in the Netherlands (open-air opera at trams), guest appearances at both opera stages in Prague, a premiere of The Bartered Bride in Ostrava, guest appearances in Košice, and an outstanding concert performance of The King Roger with the Czech Philharmonic under the guidance of Dutoit.

The premiere of Boris Godunov at the Slovak National Theatre, and appearances in Rigoletto at the Hamburg State Opera and in Dvořák's Rusalka at the Theatre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels were among his biggest successes in 2008.

2009 was associated with an invitation to play the lead role in Verdi's Don Carlos in Tampere; the premiere of Filka Morozov from Janáček's From the House of the Dead at the Opera in Basel; concert appearances with the Czech Philharmonic at the Dvořák Prague Festival; and performing with the Slovak Philharmonic as part of the Bratislava Music Festival, with the Košice State Philharmonic, the Žilina State Chamber Orchestra, as well as other appearances and concerts.

2010

Tokyo / Suntory Hall Smetana Bartered Bride Jeník Nancy Dvořák Rusalka Prince

Bolzano Janáček Diary of One Who Disappeared with orchestra Gustav Kuhn

Oviedo Janáček Káťa Kabanová Boris

2011

Ljubljana Dvořák Rusalka Prince Mexico / Bellas Artes

Dvořák Rusalka Prince

Montpellier Dvořák Rusalka Prince

Teatro Real Schostakovic Lady Macbeth from Mcensk Zinovij

2012

Brussels Dvořák Rusalka Prince

Munich Gasteig Janáček Glagolitic Mass with Mariss Jansons recording on DVD

Stuttgart Stravinsky The Wedding

Basel Janáček Káťa Kabanová Boris

2013

Verdi Requiem Martinique

Israel Rossini Stabat Mater

2014

Antwerp Schostakovic Lady Macbeth from Mcensk/Zinovij

Palermo Teatro Massimo Weinberger Švanda Dudák/Babinský

Moscow Verdi Requiem

Japan Tokyo Beethoven Symphony No. 9

2015

Monaco Schostakovic Lady Macbeth from Mcensk/Zinovij

Vienna Staatsoper Janáček The Makropulos Affair

2016

Perugia Janáček Glagolitic mass dir. J. Valčuha

Praha Boito Mephistophele Faust

2017

Berlin Glagolitic mass dir. J. Valčuha

Odense Beethoven 9. Symphony

Monaco Janacek Glagolitic mass dir. J. Valčuha

Helsinki Beethoven 9. Symphony

2018

Teatro San Carlo / Napoli Schostakovich Lady Macbeth from Mcensk dir. J. Valčuha Teatro San Carlo / Napoli

Janáček Kata Kabanova dir. J. Valčuha

Lodz G. Verdi Traviata

Ljubljana A. Dvořák Svatební košile

2019

Seattle L. Janáček Eternal gospel

2020

Geneve Janáček Věc Makropulos

2022

Berlin / Staatsoper Janáček Věc Makropulos Boris

Praha Dvořák Stabat Mater

Budapest Stravinski Oedipus rex

Dresden Schostakovich Die Nase Nose

Madrid Janáček Glagolitic mass

Repertoire

Bartok - Cantata Profana

Beethoven - Messe C Dur

9. Symphony

Fidelio - Jaquino Bizet

Te Deum

Britten - War Requiem

Tchaikovsky - Eugene Onegin

Dvorak - Rusalka

Armida

Amarus

Svatební Košile / The Spectre's Bride

Mass in D Major

Stabat Mater

Requiem

Donizetti - Fille de Regiment

Fibich - Sarka

Gounod - Faust

Romeo et Juliette

Messe Solennelle

Haas - The Charlatan

Haydn - Die Sieben Wort

Paukenmesse
Hummel - Messe Es - Dur
Janacek - Jenufa
Katja Kabanova
Osud
Z mrtveho domu / From The House of the Dead
Sarka
Prihody lisky Bystrousky / The Cunning Little Vixen
Otče náš / Our Father
Zápisník zmizelého / The Diary of One Who Disappeared
Amarus
Večné evangelium / Eternal Gospel
Mša Glagolskaja / Glagolitic mess
Elegie
Kodaly - Te Deum
Korngold - Die Tote Stadt
Korsakov - The Golden Cockerel
Liszt - Missa Solemnis
Mascagni - Iris
Mozart - Requiem
Die Entführung aus dem Serail
Mussorgsky - Boris Godunov
Orff - Carmina Burana
Catulli Carmina
Puccini - La Boheme
Madama Butterfly
Rossini - Stabat Mater
Schostakovich - Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk
The Nose
Smetana - Prodaná nevěsta / The Bartered Bride
Stravinsky - Svadebka / The Wedding
Oedipus Rex
Sviridov - The Bells
Szymanowski - King Roger
Verdi - La Traviata
Rigoletto
Don Carlo
Macbeth
Nabucco
Falstaff
Requiem
Weinberger - Švanda Dudák / Schwanda the Bagpiper
Zandonai - Francesca da Rimini

The theatres and stages where he performed these works:

Slovak National opera
Wiener staatsoper
Teatro Real Madrid
Teatro San Carlo Napoli
Teatro Massimo Palermo
Praque National Theatre
Sydney opera
Carnegie Hall New York
Suntory Hall Tokyo
Teatro Colon Buenos Aires
Sao Paulo Symphony Hall
Bellas Artes Mexico
La Monnaie Brussel
Amsterdam Opera
Mariinsky San Petersburg
National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall in Taipei
concertgebouw amsterdam
Musikverein Vienna
Staatsoper Berlin
Semperoper Dresden
Opera national de Paris
Sferisterio Macerata
Teatro dell'opera di Roma
Teatro Comunale Bologna
Opera national de Lorraine Nancy
Opera Tampere Finland
Opera de Montpellier
Opera de Oviedo
Opera Geneve
Opera Antwerpen
Opera Basel
Opera Ljubljana