

## Biography

### Verena Rein

The soprano received her vocal training as a master student with Kammersänger (title awarded to a singer with outstanding ability) Peter Gougaloff at the Deutsche Oper Berlin. After completing her instrumental studies at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hanover [School of Music and Theatre], her bel canto studies introduced her to Mirella Freni.

Opera and concert performances have taken her to Switzerland, the USA, Denmark, Poland, Lithuania, Russia, Armenia, Romania the Czech Republic and Germany. She has participated in radio, TV and CD recordings for, among others, the Danish national radio, TV Kraków, the Lithuanian national radio, Bucharest television, several German radio stations, and the labels Profil Hänssler (**RUSSIAN SONGS**, 2010), Dreyer-Gaido (**Wie ein Cherub aus den Wolken**, 2003; **La Note d'Or**, 2006), as well as the Potsdam Eastern Europe publication series (**Edwin Geist** – Chamber Music and Songs, 2007).

In October 2010 the comprehensive and innovative film (title: **The Liberation of Sound** – New Directions in Classical Singing) by Verena Rein was released on DVD. It is distributed worldwide by the renowned Edition Peters. It is also available at the Naxos Video Library, a unique video streaming subscription service of the well-known firm Naxos. The film received best press reviews and Verena Rein gives interviews on the subject for radio and television.

In 1995 she made her opera debut in Switzerland as **Micaëla** in Bizet's Carmen. Her most notable roles since then have included **Donna Elvira** in Mozart's Don Giovanni, **Violetta** in Verdi's La Traviata (which soon became her best role), **Konstanze** in Mozart's Die Entführung aus dem Serail and **Agathe** in Weber's Der Freischütz.

Recitals have become a major component of her work as an artist. She has performed at several international festivals, including the Schleswig-Holstein Musikfestival, the Internationaler Musiksommer "NordTöne", the Festival Mitte Europa, the Reconstruction Concerts for the Dresden Frauenkirche, the Lausitzer Musiksommer, the Summer Festival at Rosenholm Castle, Denmark, the Karol Szymanowski Music Days in Zakopane, Poland, the Christopher Summer Festival and Muzikos Ruduo in Vilnius, Lithuania, the Pažaislis Festival and the Festival Iš Arti (Philharmonic) in Kaunas, Lithuania and the International Festival of Lyrical Art as part of the European Cultural Capital 2007: Sibiu programme.

Verena Rein is further known as a performer of different styles of contemporary music, from duets to vocal works with orchestra.

The soprano has been achieving great success in both Germany and abroad (e.g. Shenandoah University, USA and Berlin University of the Arts) in conducting master classes on such diverse subjects as stage performance and stage presence training, lieder interpretation, classical Italian bel canto techniques, as well as breath and timbre control. Verena Rein also works as a publicist and writer.

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