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INDRA THOMAS
Soprano

Of Indra Thomas' performance as Imogene in *Il Pirata* at the Caramoor Festival, *The New York Times* wrote: "The mad scene was a triumph, especially its reflective first half in which Ms. Thomas' affinity for long-spun, slow melodic phrases was impressive. The audience awarded her a tremendous ovation."

Considered one of the foremost Aidas in the world today, Ms. Thomas sang this role at the Chorégies, d'Orange in a performance that was televised throughout France during the summer of 2011.

For the 2011/12 season, she performed in concerts with the Rome Symphony Orchestra (Georgia), and at the Atlanta Music Festival. Further performances this season will be *Aida* at the Hamburgische Staatsoper, and a performance of Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* with the Florida Orchestra under the direction of Stefan Sanderling. Ms. Thomas also sang at the memorial service for Maestro Dino Anagnost, music director of The Little Orchestra Society of New York, last December, and in the New Year's Eve Concert for Peace at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, where she performed Sir Michael Tippett's *A Child of Our Time*.

During the summer of 2010, Ms. Thomas sang *Aida* at the Bregenz Festival in Austria. In the 2010/11 season, she performed in a Gala Concert for the Artist Series of Sarasota, sang *Aida* at the Palau De Les Arts Reina Sofia in Valencia, Spain, made her New York recital debut in Weill Recital Hall, sang the Verdi *Requiem* with the Flint Symphony, *A Child of Our Time* with Radio France in Paris, and the Utah Symphony, and performed Chausson's *Poèmes de L'amour et la Mer* with the Orquesta Sinfonica de Galicia.

During the summer of 2009, Ms. Thomas performed *Aida* in a new production at the Bregenz Festival, and Sir Michael Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic.

The 2009/10 season brought performances of the Verdi *Requiem* in a tour of four cities in Spain with the Euskadi Orchestra under the direction of Andres Orozco Estrada, a special holiday concert with the Little Orchestra Society of New York, Britten's *War Requiem* with the Orchestra de Paris, the Verdi *Requiem* with the Vermont Symphony, and *Aida* at the Avignon Music Festival and the Bregenz Festival.

During the 2008/09 season, Ms. Thomas made her debut at the Teatro Real in Madrid and the Wiener Staatsoper, as Amelia in *Un Ballo in Maschera*. She sang in a gala concert

in Abu Dhabi to open the *Abu Dhabi Classics Festival* which was hosted by Jeremy Irons, performed in a Christmas concert with the Vermont Symphony, and sang a concert of Gershwin songs and operatic arias in Istanbul. In addition, there was a Verdi *Requiem* with the Lahti Symphony in Finland, and performances of the Beethoven *Symphony No. 9* with the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra in Seoul, South Korea, and the *Missa Solemnis* with the Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra in Tokyo. Ms. Thomas sang works by Gershwin and Barber with the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, performed a concert of opera arias with the Cleveland Symphony, and sang Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* with the Malaysia Symphony Orchestra.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PREVIOUS SEASONS:

2007/08: Performed opposite Roberto Alagna in the world premiere of *Le Dernier Jour d'un Condamné* by David Alagna at the Théâtre des Champs Élysées; sang the *Porgy and Bess Suite* with the Gewandhaus Orchester under the direction of Riccardo Chailly; debut at the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino as Amelia in *Un Ballo in Maschera*, Verdi *Requiem* with the Detroit Symphony and the Kansas City Symphony; starred in a gala concert celebrating the 60th Anniversary of The Little Orchestra Society of New York in Town Hall; Sir Michael Tippett's *A Child of our Time* with the London Symphony under the direction of Sir Colin Davis. (This performance was recorded and released on the *LSO Live* label and nominated for a 2009 Grammy Award in the "Best Choral Performance" category); *Aida* with the Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona; debuts with Opera Africa in Johannesburg and at the San Diego Opera in this role.

2006/07: Ms. Thomas' Italian debut in *Un Ballo in Maschera* at the Teatro Carlo Felice in Genoa; *Aida* at the Chorégies, d'Orange opposite Roberto Alagna; debut at the Hamburgische Staatsoper as Amelia in *Un Ballo in Maschera*; concerts of the *Porgy and Bess Suite* with the Bochumer Symphoniker; Tokyo debut in *La Forza del Destino* at the New National Theatre.

2005/06: *Vier letzte Lieder* by Strauss under the direction of Vladimir Spivakov and a recital at the Colmar Festival; London debut performing Sir Michael Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* under the direction of Sir Roger Norrington at the opening-night Proms; and Beethoven *Symphony No. 9* with the Baltimore Symphony.

CODA:

Additional performances of note include *Il Trovatore* with Austin Lyric Opera; Villa-Lobos' *La Forêt Amazonian* (recorded by Radio France); Spanish debut in the Verdi *Requiem* under the direction of Jesus Lopez-Cobos in a gala performance that was televised throughout Spain; Boston Symphony debut in Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* with Sir Colin Davis conducting; debut with the Moscow Virtuosi in Wagner's *Wesendonck Lieder*; *Vier letzte Lieder* with the Utah Symphony under the direction of Keith Lockhart; the Verdi *Requiem* with the Portland Symphony; and *Aida* in a new production for Michigan Opera Theatre, and at the Palm Beach Opera. As well as her New York Philharmonic debut in the *Porgy and Bess Suite* in a gala New Year's Eve concert conducted by Lorin Maazel and nationally televised on *Live from Lincoln Center* (2003 Emmy nomination);

Knoxville: Summer of 1915 with the Philadelphia Orchestra; Liu in *Turandot* at the Metropolitan Opera, and Ms. Thomas' debut at the Lyric Opera of Chicago in *Aida*; Mahler *Symphony No. 8* with the Boston Philharmonic; Leonora in *Il Trovatore* with Michigan Opera Theatre; Imogene in *Il Pirata* and Desdemona in Verdi's *Otello* at the Caramoor Festival; Elisabeth in *Don Carlos* with Boston Lyric Opera and Minnesota Opera, and *Aida* with the Atlanta Opera.

Ms. Thomas' French debut was made at the Colmar Festival where she performed Berlioz' *Les Nuits d'été* conducted by Maestro Spivakov.

She was a soloist in the 2003 Fourth of July concert with the Boston Pops and has performed in recital at the Caramoor Festival and at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia.

Ms. Thomas made her professional debut in the Verdi *Requiem* in Carnegie Hall with the New York Choral Society, and has recorded a CD for National Public Radio which includes lieder by Strauss, Duparc, John Duke, and Spirituals, and is featured on *A Night at the Opera* on Naxos. While in her teens, she sang "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" in the funeral scene of the Academy Award-winning film *Driving Miss Daisy*.

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