

## MIRELLA PARUTTO – SOPRANO & MEZZOSOPRANO

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At just nineteen she made her debut at the Teatro Verdi in Trieste as Leonora in *Il Trovatore*. Debuts at Milan's Teatro alla Scala followed quickly including such roles as a Priestess in *Aida* directed by Antonino Votto with Giulietta Simionato, Giuseppe Di Stefano, Nicola Zaccaria and Giangiacomo Guelfi, and as Elena in *Mefistofele* alla Scala in 1958, replacing Anna De Cavalieri (Anne McKnight) directed by Votto.

The following year saw her debut at the Boboli Gardens as Abigaille directed by Bruno Bartoletti, with Miriam Pirazzini, Gastone Limarilli and Ettore Bastianini for the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, and at the Teatro Regio in Parma as Leonora in *La forza del destino* with Carlo Bergonzi, Mario Zanasi and Raffaele Arié. In 1960 she appeared at the Teatro dell'Opera in Rome as Amelia in *Un ballo in maschera* directed by Gabriele Santini, with Miriam Pirazzini and Plinio Clabassi, and *Aida* directed by Gianandrea Gavazzeni, with Antonio Zerbini and Flora Torrigiani at the Teatro Nuovo in Turin. At the Fenice in Venice he sings in *Trovatore*, *Don Carlo*, *Mefistofele*. In 1961 at La Scala she performed Guido Pannain's *Requiem* directed by Fernando Previtali. In the same year, she appeared in *Trovatore* in Berlin, with Ettore Bastianini, Franco Corelli and Fedora Barbieri.

Among her most popular soprano roles were *Aida*, *Leonora* (in *Il trovatore* and *La forza del destino*), *Abigaille*, *Maddalena*, *Amelia*.

From 1965 she began performing as a mezzo-soprano, making her debut at the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma in *Don Carlo* directed by Luchino Visconti and conducted by Carlo Maria Giulini; the roles of *Adalgisa*, *Amneris*, *Ulrica*, *Princess Eboli*, *Princess of Bouillon* followed.

Mirella Parutto has performed in the most prestigious Italian and international theatres: La Scala, Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Teatro San Carlo in Naples, Opera di Vienna, Teatro Nacional de São Carlos, Bolshoi Theater in Moscow, Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, under the direction of the such renowned conductors as Tullio Serafin, Herbert von Karajan, Gianandrea Gavazzeni, Bruno Bartoletti, Carlo Maria Giulini, Gabriele Santini, and Franco Capuana.

After retiring from the stage, Mirella Parutto dedicated herself and still dedicates herself to teaching; among her students were Luciana D'Intino, Ildikó Komlósi, Alessandra Palomba, Barbara Di Castri, Susanna Branchini and Silvia Dalla Benetta.

Her acclaimed discography includes live productions of *Il Trovatore*, with Franco Corelli, Giangiacomo Guelfi, Fedora Barbieri, directed by Gabriele Santini (Myto, 1960) and the *Troubadour*, with Franco Corelli, Ettore Bastianini, Fedora Barbieri, Agostino Ferrin, Oliviero De Fabritiis (Melodram/BCS 1961) *Nabucco*, with Ettore Bastianini, Ivo Vinco, Luigi Ottolini, dir. Bruno Bartoletti (Myto, 1961); *Aida* (Amneris), with Leontyne Price, Giorgio Casellato-Lamberti, Mario Zanasi, dir. Oliviero De Fabritiis (Myto, 1966); the *Coronation of Poppea* (Octavia), with Claudia Parada, Mirto Picchi, Boris Christoff, dir. Carlo Franci (Opera D'Oro, 1966); *La Gioconda* (Laura), with Elinor Ross, Flaviano Labò, Dino Dondi, Ruggero Raimondi, dir. Adolfo Camozzo (House of Opera, 1967); *Don Carlo* (Eboli), with Juan Oncina, Boris Christoff, Mario Petri, Maria Candida, dir. Carlo Franci (World Music/Prèmiere Opera, 1969); *Don Carlo* (Eboli), with Pedro Lavirgen, Nicolai Ghiaurov, Piero Cappuccilli, Rita Orlandi Malaspina, dir. Gianandrea Gavazzeni (Opera Lovers, 1971)