

Spanish soprano Laura Alonso was born in Villagarcía de Arosa (Galicia). She graduated both in singing and violin. She later went on to the Musikhochschule in Karlsruhe (Germany) with a scholarship from the prestigious Alexander von Humboldt Foundation to study with Aldo Baldin, Anna Reynolds and Jean Cox and lied with Hartmut Höll, among other masters.

At 23 years of age she joined the „ensemble“ of the Aalto Theater in Essen (Germany) where she sang Mimí in *La Bohème*, Gilda in *Rigoletto*, Susanna in *Figaro*, Zdenka in *Arabella*, Pamina in *The Magic Flute* and Blanche in *Carmelites*, among other roles and numerous concerts. At the aforementioned Theatre, she got the Best Artist Award by popular acclaim and she will sing again in the Ruhr 2010 European City of Culture in Essen at the Aalto Theatre.

She now sings regularly at internationally renowned Auditoriums and theatres such as the Auditorium in Rishon Le Zion (Israel), Teatro Bellas Artes in Mexico, Teatro de Guanajuato, Philharmonie de Cologne, Musikhalle in Hamburg, Konzerthaus and Philharmonie in Berlin, Karlsruhe, Dortmund and Essen, Kuppel Saal in Hannover (Germany), Herodes Aticus in Athens, Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Los Angeles Auditorium (USA), Palau de Valencia and Barcelona, among others.

Ms. Alonso has won several singing awards at international competitions, among which we can highlight her First Prize in the last Alfredo Kraus Competition as well as the Franco Corelli, Verviers or Jaume Aragall Competitions.

She currently performs with conductors of international acclaim such as Ion Marin, Philipp Jordan, Stefan Soltesz, Zoltan Peszko, Víctor Pablo Pérez, Heiko Matthias Förster, Frühbeck de Burgos, Carlos Kalmar or Jiri Kôut at leading European Theatres (Pisa, Düsseldorf, Mannheim, Leipzig, Frankfurt, Darmstadt, Nancy, Braunschweig, Poissy, Freiburg, Lübeck, Liceu, Breno, etc.), performing several Opera roles such as Antonia, Zerbinetta, Susanna, Oscar, Lucia, Lulú, Giulia, Nannetta, Sophie, Elvira, Amina, or Violetta in *La Traviata*.

She has collaborated with stage directors as A. Pilavachi, De Tomasi, Johannes Schaaf, Pontiggia, Berndt, Schlingensiefel o Hilsdorf at the Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and Tenerife Festivals, at the Festival in Royaumont, Bregenzer Festspiele, Maestranza in Sevilla, at the Expo in Hannover, Innsbrucker Festwochen, Ile de France Festival, Santander Festival, at the Autumn Festival in Madrid and the Opera Week in Berlin, among other musical events.

Among her most recent roles, we can highlight Giulia in *La Scala di Seta*, performed during a tour with the Freiburger Barockorchester under the baton of Attilio Cremonesi. Furthermore, she excelled at the Berlin Staatsoper with *Ariadne auf Naxos*. With her debut at the Innsbruck Festival (Austria) in the role of Cleopatra in *Giulio Cesare* by Antonio Sartorio, she won the Diapason D'or, awarded by the French critics, and the CD obtained a great success.

Other special achievements include her role as Magda in *La Rondine*, which she performed recently in Utrecht (Netherlands) with the T.R.O.S. and Gómez Martínez as conductor, as well as her Salzburg performance in the role of Sandrina, in *La Finta Giardiniera*, on the occasion of Mozart Year 2006 with Doris Dörrie as stage manager.

Other recent performances have taken place in Santander and La Coruña with the Opera Carmen and also in La Coruña the Spanish Premiere of *The rescue of Penelope*, by Britten.

She has performed in some of the most important Auditoriums and Theatres in Spain, and at the end of 2007, she sang belcanto repertoire in the Opera Hall at Valladolid Auditorium, with the conductor Alejandro Posada and Canarian tenor Celso Albelo with duets and arias from *Lakmé*, *Rigoletto*, *Elisir d'amore* and *Semiramide*, alongside the Symphony Orchestra of Castilla y León.

She devotes most of the year to giving recitals and concerts. Next music key events are a *Liederabend* at the Juan March Foundation in Madrid, and another one at the Auditorio Conde Duque with the conductor Manuel Burgueras, as well as several Spanish music concerts in the United States.

Her most ambitious recording project was the Belcanto Arias Album „Col sorriso d'innocenza“, in collaboration with the Philharmonic Orchestra of Malaga, which was published in December 2006, obtaining excellent reviews among the Opera specialised international press.

The record label Columna Musica has recently released her CD collection of Galician songs „Lúa descolorida“, and another one will be released shortly with Spanish repertoire.

Among her next performances are Brahms Requiem, Handel’s Messiah, Mahler’s Fourth Symphony, Haydn’s Creation, and a Spanish Songs Concert alongside the Hamburg Symphony Orchestra.

She has played the leading role as Rosario in her debut of the work Goyescas by Granados this year.

She has recently toured the main cities in Germany alongside the Chilean tenor Felipe Rojas, accompanied by the prestigious orchestra Neue Philharmonie Westfalen, singing exclusively Spanish “zarzuelas”.

Soon she will sing alongside the Orchestra da camera di Firenze works by Vivaldi under the direction of the Turkish Master Guven Yaslicam, and El retablo de Maese Pedro by Manuel de Falla in Tel Aviv, as well as playing the role of Donna Anna in Don Giovanni in Chile, under the direction of Donato Cabrera, among other commitments.

She will make her debut in the prestigious Alice Tully Hall in New York in November with the opera The Empty Hours by Ricardo Llorca.

A record is to be released shortly including the most beautiful songs composed by Pauline Viardot- García, accompanied at the piano by the prestigious Manuel Burgueras.

In 2011, Laura will perform at the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires as Lulú in Alban Berg’s Opera, conducted by the American Music Director Stefan Lano and Stage Master Alfredo Arias.

Laura Alonso currently lives in Berlin and continues her musical training with Anna Reynolds and Irmgaard Hartmann.