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## Maija Kovalevska Soprano



The Latvian soprano, Maija Kovalevska, studied singing among others with Mirella Freni. Highlights of her career include her signature role of Mimi (La Bohème) in Sydney and Covent Garden, Maddalena (Andrea Chénier) and Tosca for the Sigulda Festival and the West Australian Opera, Desdemona (Otello) in Mexico, Alice Ford (Falstaff) in Hamburg, Verdi's Requiem in London, and Mahler's Fourth Symphony in Canada.

Maija gained international recognition in 2006 after winning first place at the Operalia competition in Valencia. She made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera as Mimi in Franco Zeffirelli's La Bohème and performed at the 125th-anniversary concert of the Met in New York City.

At the Vienna State Opera, the artist made her debut as Tatjana in Eugene Onegin, sang Micaela in the film adaptation of Bizet's Carmen at the Royal Opera, played Liù in Turandot at La Scala in Milan, and performed Tchaikovsky's Iolanta at the Semperoper in Dresden.

Maija's portrayal of Teresa in Benvenuto Cellini was filmed at the Salzburg Festival. In Latvia, she was awarded the Order of the Three Stars and the title of Honorary Professor.

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## **Press:**

"Soprano Maija Kovalevska's Tosca holds centre stage with an effortless presence and voice, rolling instantly from infatuation to jealousy and back in naturally nuanced interplay with her lover." – David Cusworth, The West Australian

"Kovalevska, her intonation perfect, her tone sublime and her theatrical portrayal of Tosca intense to the final seconds of the opera, was the undoubted star." – Western Australia's Art Magazine

"The Latvian soprano Maija Kovalevska is an exceptional Mimi. She brings a plush, warm voice and wistful expressivity to her singing. A lovely woman and a sensitive actress, she brought out Mimi's sweetness while suggesting that this character is ready to embrace love impulsively because she senses life slipping away from her." – Anthony Tommasini, The New York Times

"Maija Kovalevska's Tatiana is gloriously sung, the tone lustrous from top to toe" – The London Times

## Highlights in past and upcoming seasons:

Concert Tour	Toronto, Canada, 2024
"Götterdämmerung" (Gutrune)	The Ring Cycle – Opera Australia, 2023
Verdi's "Requiem"	Sydney Opera House, 2023
Verdi's "Requiem" for Mirella Freni	Modena Teatro Comunale, 2022
"Falstaff" (Mrs. Alice Ford)	Staatsoper Hamburg, 2020
La bohème (Mimì)	Semperoper Dresden, 2020

## **Recordings:**

MAJESTY: Operatic Arias (Odradek)



Puccini: La bohème (Royal Opera House)

