

CURRICULUM VITAE

Jelena Končar- mezzo~soprano graduated at the Faculty of Music in Belgrade, Serbia, under tutelage of world- known soprano Mrs. Radmila Bakočević. In the course of her education, *Jelena Končar* won an *Anita Mezetova's* scholarship as the best student at the Department of solo singing at the Faculty of Music in Belgrade. During her studies, she also won a *Biserka Cvejić's* scholarship for the most talented student at the Faculty. She was also scholarship holder of CEE Musictheater- Wien for three years, during which she attended master classes with *Ileana Contrubas* and *Bernd Weikl*.

Jelena Končar has been awarded with a number of international competitions:

- International competition "Nikola Cvejić" Ruma, Serbia- 1st prize and special prize for the best mezzo-soprano at the competition
- International competition of young singers "Petar Konjović" Belgrade, Serbia - 1st prize
- International competition "Obzorja na Tisi, Serbia- 1st prize and special prize for the best mezzo-soprano at the competition
- International festival *Armel*, Budapest, Hungary- 1st prize in the category Best female performer.

During her studies she became a soloist at National Theatre in Novi Sad, Serbia. Since then she played in: *Carmen (Carmen)*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia (Rosina)*, *Norma (Adalgisa)*, *Don Giovanni (Elvira)*, *Così fan tutte (Dorabella)*, *Die Csardasfürstin (Silva)*, *The Queen of Spades (Polina)*, *Les contes d'Hoffmann (Nicklausse)*, *Madama Butterfly (Suzuki)*, *A hand of Bridge (Geraldine)*, *Mileva (Zorka)*, *The last flower of the Summer (Miss N.N)*, *Nabucco (Fenena)*, *Rigoletto (Maddalena)*, *Traviata (Flora)*, *Carmen (Mercedes)*, *Cavalleria rusticana (Lola)*, *Lucia di Lammermoor (Alisa)*, etc.

She has been awarded by National Theatre in Novi Sad for the best performance of *Adalgisa* (Norma), for *Silva* (Die Csardasfürstin) and *Rosina* (Il Barbiere di Siviglia).

She has also been regularly performing as a guest soloist at National Theatre in Maribor (Slovenia), National Theatre in Belgrade (Serbia), Madlenianum- Opera and Theatre, Zemun (Serbia), Macedonian Opera and Ballet, Skopje (Macedonia).

Two seasons in a row, 2010 and 2011, she performed *Mercedes* in *Carmen*, under the baton of *Gergely Keselyak*, directed by *Miklós Gábor Kerényi* at the prestigious *Szeged Open-Air Summer Festival*.

In year 2010 and 2011 she attended specialist studies under Kamersängerin *Mrs. Joanna Borowska- Isser* at the University of Music in Graz, Austria in a course where she has not only perfected her *belcanto* roles, but also enriched her repertoire.

In 2011/2012 season, she performed *Donna Elvira* (Don Giovanni) with National Opera House of Timisoara (Romania) on tour around Germany.

In 2012 and to high critical acclaim, she performed *Zorka*, a fiendishly difficult role both singing and acting-wise in "Mileva", a modern opera composed by Aleksandra Vrebalov. After tumultuous applause at the Serbian National Theatre in Novi Sad, Sava Centar, Belgrade and Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb, for the role of *Zorka*, *Jelena Končar* was greatly praised by the critics for incredible stage and artistic achievement at the renowned Arnel Festival in Szeged, Hungary.

2012/2013 season was marked by the world premiere of *Zoran Juranić's "The last flower of the Summer"* in which she performed, to high critical acclaim, the main female role of *Miss N.N.* first at the Serbian National Theatre in Novi Sad and then in Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb.

In year 2013 she won *First prize* as Best Female Performer at the international competition of the *Arnel Festival* in Szeged, Hungary, with her sensational portrayal of *Miss.N.N.* in the final round. As the competition's laureate, she performed at the 2013/2014 New Year's Concert at Victoria Hall, in Geneva, Switzerland.

In the year 2014 she has been attending master class on National University of Music- Almaty, Kazakhstan in the class of Maestro *Shakhimardan Abilov*.

In 2015 she debuted as *Carmen* (Carmen) in State Opera and Ballet Theatre in Krasnoyarsk, Russia. After great debut and high critical acclaim, she opened the season 2015/2016 as *Carmen* in Abay National Theatre and Opera House in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

She has a rich concert career and has performed with the Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra, Belgrade Radio Orchestra, St. George Strings, Serbian Army Orchestra, etc. Her concert program is