



## MASTROIANNI ASSOCIATES

MAIJA KOVALEVSKA

Soprano

2008-09 Season

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From New York to Salzburg to Tokyo, few emerging artists have captured as much international attention as the young Latvian soprano Maija Kovalevska. Winner of the 2006 Domingo Operalia competition, Ms. Kovalevska made an unexpected Metropolitan Opera debut in Puccini's *La bohème* in December 2006 and was immediately engaged for the premiere of the MET's new production of Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice* with James Levine in May 2007. Subsequently, she has garnered ecstatic reviews for her 2007 Salzburg debut in Berlioz's *Benvenuto Cellini* conducted by Valery Gergiev and her 2008 Glyndebourne debut in Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* conducted by Vladimir Jurowski.

The 2008-09 season commences with a gala concert in Prague immediately followed by her U.S. symphonic debut with the Boston Symphony conducted by Maestro Levine. In the autumn, Maija Kovalevska makes her San Francisco Opera debut led by Nicola Luisotti in her signature role of Mimì in *La bohème*. —the role in which the Riga-born soprano returns this season to the Metropolitan Opera, and which also introduces her to German audiences at Munich's Bayerische Staatsoper in the spring and to Italian audiences at the 2009 Torre del Lago Festival next summer.

Other important debuts this season include her Paris debut at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* conducted by Marc Minkowski and her role debut as Liù in Puccini's *Turandot* at Washington National Opera. A highlight of the current season will be Ms. Kovalevska's solo contribution to the Metropolitan Opera's 125th Anniversary Gala, on which occasion, with James Levine conducting, she performs the aria "O mio babbino caro," composed by Puccini for the Metropolitan Opera premiere of *Gianni Schicchi* in 1918.

Looking ahead to the 2009-10 season, Ms. Kovalevska will appear in a new production of *Don Giovanni* (as Donna Elvira) at the Bayerische Staatsoper and return to the MET for *Turandot*, *Benvenuto Cellini*, and a new production of *Carmen*, as well as making her Royal Opera debut in *Carmen*.

Ms. Kovalevska lives in Italy where she continues to study with legendary Italian soprano Mirella Freni.

World Management:

J. F. Mastroianni, Sr. Vice President  
IMG Artists LLC  
New York, New York  
jmastroianni@imgartists.com

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*[Please discard all previous biographical materials. Thank you.]*