

## **Biography – Claudia Oddo – spinto soprano**

Born in Germany, the Italian soprano Claudia Oddo gained her first stage experience at the age of 14 at the opera house of her native city, Bielefeld. There she received her ballet, piano and first vocal training. She performed as dancer, actress and chorus-singer in the theatre's operas and ballets until she moved to Italy where she started her classical voice studies at the conservatory in Bologna. By the age of 21 she had already made her concert debut as a solo vocalist in the contemporary theatre play "Siate Parchi".

Internationally acclaimed singers and renowned musicians have so far contributed to Claudia Oddo's career with their skills and tutelage, including: the tenors Giuliano Ciannella and William Matteuzzi, Placido Domingo; the pianists Roberto Negri in Milan; mezzo-soprano Anna Reynolds, the soprano Yva Barthélémy, the stage director Franco Zeffirelli, the conductor as Fausto Nardi, the bass- baritone Roberto Scandiuzzi and currently the countertenor Aris Christofellis. While still a student, Claudia Oddo was acclaimed as one of the most talented students of the "Borgatti competition" in Ferrara, where she one a six-month scholarship to the Opera Studio Le Nozze di Figaro in the role of Marcellina.

She was among the prizewinners of the "Mythos"; a one-year opera program for young singers at the opera house G. Verdi in Busseto, sponsored by the Foundation "A. Toscanini". During this program she made her opera debut as Grisette in F. Lehàr's Die lustige Witwe under the conducting of M. De Bernart at the theatre Salsomaggiore. Other collaborations followed with the A. Toscanini Foundation, such as La Traviata directed by Franco Zeffirelli and conducted by Placido Domingo at the opera house Giuseppe Verdi in Busseto. This historical Production was broadcast in 2002 on Italian TV channel Rai 1.

Claudia Oddo appeared at numerous Italian summer festivals in Emilia Romagna. Other engagements included the roles of Maddalena and Giovanna, both in Rigoletto at the theatre D. Fabbri, Forlì and with tour of EMR's theatres, under the directorship of Maestro Giuliano Ciannella. Claudia Oddo made her German opera debut to great acclaim in 2005 (see critical reviews in "Opernwelt" issue: June 2005), singing the role of Paoluccia in N. Piccinni's La Cecchina under the directorship of Fausto Nardi at the Schlosstheater Rheinsberg. She won the role of Meg Page in G. Verdi's Falstaff at the "International singing competition Rome Festival" for the summer productions in Rome. She interpreted the role of Dämonia in Humperdink's Dornröschen at the opera house Münster.

In November 2009 Claudia Oddo made her official debut as spinto soprano in the R. Oetkerhalle Bielefeld with the "Alte Philharmonie Münster", conducted by Thorsten Schmid- Kapfenburg. She sang arias and duets from Aida, Tosca, Cavalleria Rusticana, Mme Butterfly. In 2012 she has been sinning the Role of "La Contessa Cipriano in Verdi's Roigoletto at the opera house in Ferrara conducted by Francesco Ommassini. In 2013 she has been selected among the new talented voices of the Opera world by "Verona Lirica" and the Fondazione Arena di Verona at the Teatro Filarmonico. She took part at the prizewinner concert singing the arias of Puccini's Tosca and Verdi's Un ballo in maschera. In the same year she also has recorded her

first international CD "Claudia Oddo Verdi & Puccini" at the Teatro Ristori in Verona with the "Filarmonia Regionale Veneta" directed by Francesco Ommassini. For this production Claudia Oddo received international recognition by the opera magazine [www.forumopera.com](http://www.forumopera.com) (see issue December 2013). With the same orchestra Claudia Oddo made her concert debut in Verdi's "La Traviata" as Violetta with the Baritone Domenico Balzani and Tenor Cristian Ricci at the beautiful Hall of the Castel Vecchio in Verona.

In 2014 followed her interpretation of Mimì in Puccini's "la Bohème" in the summer masterclass of Opera Verona directed by Julius Kalmar and Giovanni Pacor. In November 2015 she published her second international album "Claudia Oddo sacred music" recorded by Audio Classica in Cracow.

Claudia Oddo's performances in concert and recital are an equally important part of her schedule. She currently performs numerous concerts in Europe with excellent musicians, ensembles and orchestras as "The Tiffany Ensemble" from Düsseldorf, "The Klassik Swing Italian Quartet" of Günther Sanin, the Konzertmeister of the Arena di Verona and the "Bulka Ensemble" from Cracow singing a repertory ranging from the Baroque through to the Romantic periods, in internationally renowned Concert Halls, Festivals and churches as the Alte Oper Frankfurt, Stadttheater Gütersloh, Congress Hall Wolfsburg, Rudolf Oetker Hall, Barocksaal Rostock, Teatro Filarmonico Verona, Castel Vecchio Verona, San Bernardino monastery and the San Giorgio in Braida church in Verona.

In Germany Claudia Oddo is often invited to represent the Italian Opera as by the Italian Council of Hannover and Dortmund, and in 2015 for the City of Wolfsburg to celebrate their 77th anniversary and 40 years partnership with the city of Pesaro performing highlights from Tosca and Carmen with the Philharmonic Volkswagen Orchestra.

In 2016 in Lecce she has been giving a recital with the pianist Roberto Corliano at the Palazzo Vernazza and in Germany at the Rudolf Oetker-Halle Bielefeld for the vernissage of the painter Ippazio Fracasso- Baacke, with whom she has produced the musical art-video "Addio del passato". This cross over song has been composed by the German composer Andreas Gotthilf and the lyrics are written by Claudia Oddo and it is now published on youtube.

Her upcoming concerts in 2016 and 2017 include a tourney between Germany and Poland performing with her "Bulka Ensemble" her recent album "Claudia Oddo sacred music" as at the 50th "Jan Kiepura" Festival in Krinica Zdroj Poland and in Italy and Germany she will be giving recitals with the Golden Opera Award winner Roberto Corliano.