

Sylvie Valayre

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Born in Paris, Sylvie Valayre graduated at the conservatory of her home town under the guidance of Christiane Eda-Pierre and Regine

Crespin.

For one of her first appearances on stage, Mstislav Rostropovich and Galina Vishnevskaya asked her to perform the title role in their production of Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's *The Tsar's Bride* at the Rome Opera in 1988.

In 1996, with the production of Venice's *La Fenice*, she made her debut in Warsaw in the part of Elisabetta in *Don Carlo*. A few months later followed her debuts in *Nabucco* at Royal Opera House Covent Garden and in *Don Carlo* at Royal Albert Hall in London. In 1997, Milan invited her onto the famous stage of La Scala to perform Ponchielli's *La Gioconda*. Her debut in Milan was soon followed by other debuts at other famous opera houses and concert platforms such as debuts in Verdi's *Jerusalem* at Carnegie Hall in New York, in *Nabucco*, *Aida* and *Tosca* at Arena di Verona. Her first performances at the Metropolitan Opera in *Madama Butterfly* followed in January 2000. She later returned to the Met as Maddalena in *Andrea Chénier* with Plácido Domingo and James Levine as well as in the role of *Tosca*.

Sylvie Valayre frequently performs for the most important opera companies around the world such as the Lyric Opera Chicago (*Tosca*), in Madrid (amongst other parts Chrysothemis in *Elektra* with Daniel Barenboim), Brussel's *La Monnaie* (*Macbeth* with Antonio Pappano), Deutsche Oper Berlin (*Kaiserin* in *Die Frau ohne Schatten* with Christian Thielemann and many other roles), Staatsoper Berlin (amongst other her first *Turandot* under the baton of Kent Nagano), Washington National Opera (*Fedora* with Plácido

Domingo and other parts), Opernhaus Zürich (Manon Lescaut with Nello Santi and a lot of other roles), Glyndebourne (Lady Macbeth with Vladimir Jurowski) and at the Vienna State Opera in many roles of her repertoire. Most recently, she performed Tosca an der Opéra de Bastille in Paris, Lady Macbeth at Semperoper Dresden, Abigaille in Nabucco at San Diego Opera, Turandot in Monte-Carlo and Tosca at Staatsoper Berlin. As Turandot, she inaugurated the new opera house of Guangzhou in China under the baton of Lorin Maazel in May 2010.

In 2010/11, Sylvie Valayre returns to the Opéra Bastille in Paris as Giorgetta in Puccini's Il tabarro under the baton of Philippe Jordan, sings a gala performance of Madama Butterfly in Mannheim and gives her debuts at Beejing Opera as Turandot and at Royal Opera Copenhagen as Kaiserin in Die Frau ohne Schatten.

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