

Carla Regina www.youtube.com/voiceactually www.voiceactually.com

Carla Regina began her musical career, as pianist at age of 3, and singer at age 18 . She received her degree in piano, vocal chamber music and classical voice from the Conservatory of Bari and the prestigious Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory in Milan, Italy . She studied with Eughenia Dundekova, Floriana Cavalli, Daniela Uccello ,Sonia Turchetta.

Her education was completed by voice masterclasses with Elio Battaglia, Gabriella Ravazzi, Thomas Quastoff , William Matteuzzi, Valerie Guillorit, and acting classes of Strasberg / Stanislavskj method. (Actor's Studio Roma 2002).

As a pianist, she received a scholarship to La Scala theater as correpetitor at age 22. She has worked in the same capacity for eminent conductor Claudio Abbado at the Teatro Comunale di Ferrara, where she realized that singing was her calling.

Carla made her debut as a mezzo-soprano in Haydn's oratorio "Applausus" at the Festival de Haute Limoges in France in 1998.

She has performed operatic roles of Verdi, Rossini, Donizetti, Mozart , Maderna with some of Europe's finest orchestras (Stuttgart Philharmonic Orchestra, Ensemble Contrain, Divertimento Ensemble, Nederlandse Promenade Orkest, i Pomeriggi Musicali).

She has appeared at opera houses, concert halls and festivals in Europe, and in the world : Grachtenfestival (The Netherlands), Baden Powell Theatre (Brazil) Teatro Sperimentale di Spoleto (Italy) ,Schleswig-Holstein Festival, Rossini in Wildbad Festival (Germany) , Den Enden Opera House (Denmark), among others.

She made her American singing debut in Los Angeles, USA., in 2004.

In 2003, she took center stage in the title role of Georges Bizet's Carmen in The Netherlands, returning to the role in 2004 with 12 sold out performances to a house of 1400 attendees for each evening. The 2004 production of Carmen has been released on DVD, May 11, 2004.

In 2001, Carla received the *Premio Assami* award for Contemporary music and the *Oscar della Musica* award for Best Young Italian Performer in The Netherlands (appointed by the Italian Consulate in Amsterdam).

In 2007 she has been awarded with the *Premio Leonardiano Speciale per la Musica* , in Italy.

Along with main stream activity as opera singer (concert and theater), Carla Regina is an accomplished theatermaker and contemporary performer.

In March 2006 , she fulfilled her passion for music theater writing, directing and performing the one-woman show "Music for a while" at Het Fijnhout theater in Amsterdam, NL.

The show in which the versatile artist performs as an opera/contemporary music singer, and actress proved to be a great success, also for its italian premiere (May 2007).

In 2008, she creates a new music-theater show writing, directing and performing "Het leven is een opera" ("Life is an opera") funded by Amsterdam Fonds voor de kunst .

The whole project has been released on DVD.

She decided in 2009 to put together all her projects under one umbrella.

Foundation "Voice, Actually!" was born : a creative and productional platform for all the artistic work of the artist, opera,musictheater, television, artistic and more commercial work, workshops ,and custom made artistic projects.

In 2010-11 , the first production of Voice, Actually! "In viaggio", music theater show where she sings classical and folk style, toured the Netherlands with great reviews.

In 2012 the new production is called "Preludiando" and it features a collaboration with Academy Award Winner Gabriel Yared.

In 2013 , she is in the artistic panel of "Opera Playground" invited by the Foundation United States of Opera, to discuss, experiment and create the future of opera in a documentary produced by the dutch Opera Festival OperaDagen.

2014 "Voice, Actually" produced the show " Liederen van heimwee en saamhorigheid" (Songs of longing and belonging), about identity and own roots.

In 2015, Carla was asked as concept/ script writer en director, to work on the musictheater show " De Waterprins" , 6 shows with a cast of 15 artists.

The format of storytelling, opera, and music of every style in an unique musictheater show , gets its own branded name : " Theatermusica" .

She has appeared on Danish, Dutch, Italian, and Brazilian television .

In 2012, Carla Regina is featured in a Tv documentary about her life and work on the national Dutch Tv broadcast NTR, in the program "Het beloofde land"

Carla Regina works as artistic leader of opera group "Opera Viva"(Het Klooster in Woerden), where she creates and directs a music theater show featuring 20 amateurs operasingers, 20 different opera pieces,orchestra and guest performers (dance).

Press says about her:

"The mezzo from Bari, Italy, has lots of the elements of an ideal Carmen: a powerful dramatic mezzoprano sound, a sensual look matched with a brilliant acting talent

"(The Westland Courant-The Netherlands),

"A success turned to triumph with the audience charmed by her enchanting voice and the stage presence..."(Italia amiga-Brasilonline-Brasil)

"...the Italian singer gets a personal affirmation giving her character...intense and dramatic color." (Orpheus- Germany),

"...with a great deal of confidence and nonchalance, the singer showcases not only her vocal skills, but also theatrical skills , and quite a stage presence .." (Primo piano-Italy)

“ She conveys music, singing, acting in a modern yet classical way, matching an expressive stage presence with a beautiful voice, full , intense and vibrant..”(Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno-Italy)...”

..”Her voice is a powerful and intense instrument, it comes straight to your heart. The complete mastering of her voice and her versatility are the strongest points of Carla Regina, italian mezzo of many colours and nuances,” (Corriere del Teatro, Italy)

..”The classical trained Regina proves in this show that she is at home in different styles. She sings art songs, and italian folk ballads in a wonderful way.....her versatility is astounding. (Parool-The Netherlands)