

Iria Perestrelo

soprano

Portuguese Soprano Iria Perestrelo trained at Oporto Conservatoire and at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London.

A pupil of renowned Australian soprano Yvonne Kenny, Iria's repertoire include Susanna in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Zerlina D. *Giovanni* and Despina in *Così fan tutte*. Iria has performed at major opera festivals in the UK, namely at Grange Park Opera, covering Sandmännchen in *Hänsel & Gretel*, and at Wexford Festival Opera Ireland sang the Gingerbread woman in *Delius A village Romeo & Juliet*. At the Barbican Theatre Iria sang the role of Moth in Britten *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Iria's prizes include the *Kathleen Ferrier Competition for young singers*, the Audience Prize at *Concurso de Canto da Fundação Rotária Portuguesa* in Lisbon, finalist at the *John Kerr Award for English Song* and the Prize *Jovens Criadores* - Clube Português de Artes e Ideias & Instituto Português da Juventude - awarded for her debut performance at the prestigious Wigmore Hall London.

As a Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation scholar, Iria sang at the ENOA (European Network of Opera Academies) masterclasses in Teatr Wielki Warsaw, working with Anita Garanča and Andrejs Žagars (Latvian National Opera), Dmitry Vdovin (Bolshoi Theatre), Eytan Pessen (Semperoper Dresden) and Izabella Kłosińska (Teatr Wielki). Iria has attended other masterclasses with Claudio Desderi, Edith Wiens, Sarah Walker CBE, Eugene Asti, Dame Emma Kirkby and works regularly with Chen Reiss.

Iria has appeared as a concert soloist at iconic venues in the UK, including the National Theatre, National Portrait Gallery, Handel House, St. Martin-in-the-fields, Birmingham Town Hall, between others.

Her concert repertoire includes Handel *Messiah*, Vivaldi *Gloria*, Mozart *Exsultate Jubilate*, *Coronation Mass*, *Missa Brevis in G*, Haydn *kleine Orgelmesse*, Pergolesi *Stabat Mater*, Schubert *Mass n.2 in G*, Fauré *Messe Basse*, Bach *Ich habe genug*, Britten *A Ceremony of Carols*.

Collaborations with the Choir of the Age of Enlightenment and the Philharmonia Chorus have taken Iria to the greatest concert halls in the UK including The Royal Albert Hall (notably in the BBC Proms) and the Royal Festival Hall. In Europe on stages such as Elbphilharmonie Hamburg and Palau de la Música València

Highlights include engagements with some of the world's leading conductors namely Sir Simon Rattle, Sir Jeffrey Tate, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Andris Nelsons, Marin Alsop, Daniel Harding.

While at Guildhall School Iria was a soloist with the Guildhall Baroque Orchestra (c. Pavlo Beznosiuk) and with her own baroque ensemble *Prince and Pauper Consort*. Notable performances include Purcell *The Fairy Queen* (Night, Juno), Monteverdi *L'incoronazione di Poppea* (Drusilla), Handel *Aminta e Fillide* (Aminta), appearing at the London Handel Festival and Brighton Early Music Festival. Other highlights include a staged version of Bach St. Mathew Passion with the Southbank Sinfonia and directed by Sir Jonathan Miller.

Iria is a recipient of the Instituto Camões Award in promotion of *Songs from Portugal* - a duo project with harpsichordist Isabel Calado, which explores Portuguese vocal repertoire from the 18th to the 20th century.

Currently Iria lives in Switzerland, where she is working at Konzert Theater Bern.