

# PERGOLESÌ LA SERVA PADRONA

THE MAID TURNED MISTRESS

2015 SEASON



In 2014 "Brisbane Chamber Opera" has successfully produced one of the most beloved comic operas in history: La Serva Padrona by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi.

The production is offered to audiences in Queensland and NSW in 2015.



OPERA BUFFA

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

To celebrate the Empress of Austria's birthday back in 1733, Pergolesi (1710 - 1736) was commissioned to write an opera in which La Serva Padrona formed a two act intermezzo, however this section later went on to gain extraordinary popularity as a separate work. This tale of two archetypal characters, the cunning maid Serpina and her aging master Uberto, has been very palatable to audiences around the world for almost 300 years.







[Watch trailer](#)



As the theme of the opera is timeless we decided to move it to a more "contemporary" stage and present the performance with modern instruments and costumes. The opera is sung in English in order to make the text approachable to Australian audiences and is directed by Sharyn Henry. The duration of the opera can vary from 1 hour to 90 minutes depending of the style of performance required. (School and similar performances can be shorter, but full length performances with interval are another option).

## THE PRODUCTION

# THE PERFORMERS

What happens when you combine the talents and cultural backgrounds of a Hungarian Soprano, an Australian baritone, a Greek violinist and an Israeli pianist? Here are some personal details of the performers involved.





Judit was born in Miskolc, Hungary and graduated from the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in 2008. She performs at solo and chamber concerts, festivals, oratorios and operas in Hungary and across Europe- Italy, Austria, Germany, Czech, Poland, Slovakia and UK- as well as in her adopted country Australia.

During her time of study, she won several prizes for her singing, she made her operatic debut in the role of Adina in L'elisir d'amore. Judit sang the role of Musetta (La Boheme), Lola (Cavallerie rusticana), Fáni ( Az igazmondó juhász), Spirit and First Witch (Dido and Aeneas), and Serpina (La serva padrona).

On the concert stage Judit has performed as soloist with the North-Hungarian Symphony Orchestra, the BBZI Symphony Orchestra, Interoperett, Lehar Festival, Queensland Pop's Orchestra, Vienna Pop's Orchestra and the Canberra Symphony Orchestra in diverse repertoire ranging from Handel's oratorios to spectacular New Year's Eve Galas.

**JUDIT MOLNAR**  
SOPRANO



**MARK JOWETT**  
BARITONE

Mark was born in Murwillumbah NSW he studied at the Queensland Conservatorium of music in voice and violin. He continued his studies in London with the renowned Bass Baritone Norman Bailey. Roles include Valentine (Faust), Rigoletto (Rigoletto), Amonastro (Aida), Onegin (Eugene Onegin), Renato (Ballo), Germont (La Traviata), Mr Kofner (The Consul), Yamadori (Madama Butterfly) Figaro (Marriage of Figaro). Oratorios include Handel Messiah, Haydn Nelson Mass, Mendelssohn Elijah, Faure Requiem, Weber Jubilee Cantata etc. He is an adjudicator for several competitions in Queensland and NSW. In the last couple of years he performed the main roles in Pergolesi's "La Serva Padrona", Menotti's "The telephone" and Telemann's "Pimpinone".

Spiros was born in Corfu, Greece. Studied in Athens, Vienna and Bloomington USA with Prof. E. Melkus, R. Odnoposoff and F. Gulli. Won prizes at International competitions in Colmar, France and Forte dei Marmi, Italy. In a career spanning over 50 years he has appeared as a soloist, chamber musician, recitalist and conductor in many European countries, the USA, Asia and Australia. He has also taught in Vienna, Graz, Melbourne and Brisbane where he was senior lecturer at UQ. He has recorded over 70 LP's and has appeared in TV and radio programs worldwide. He is still very active in performance, conducting, teaching and adjudicating. He was the founder of the "Rantos Collegium", the Brisbane Chamber orchestra", and "ENSEMBLE I".

**SPIROS RANTOS**  
VIOLINIST/CONDUCTOR



**BRACHI TILLES**  
PIANO

Brachi was born in Tel-Aviv where she studied music and French Literature. Further studies took her to in Sienna, Vienna and Bloomington. She came to Australia in 1976 as a member of the chamber music group ENSEMBLE I and held teaching positions at USQ and VCA Melbourne. Brachi has appeared, as soloist with various orchestras in Australia and abroad but her main interest is chamber music where she has an international reputation. She has recorded for several labels and national Radio and TV stations in Europe, Asia and the USA.

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