



Anu Komsí continues to be praised for her versatile musicianship and for her dynamic coloratura voice. Equally at home on both opera and concert stages, she has appeared regularly all over Europe and in the United States. Komsí is a versatile recitalist and chamber musician with a repertory ranging from renaissance music to cutting-edge contemporary music.

Engagements in leading European Opera houses like Paris Bastille, Stuttgart, Frankfurt am Main, Paris Chatelet, Paris T&M (Odeon and Strasbourg), among others keep her busy in her operatic career. Her repertoire includes over 40 operatic roles including Lulu, Zerbinetta, Norina, Stravinsky's *Nightingale*, Gilda, Susanna, Rosalinde, *Mysteries of Macabre* by Ligeti, *Philomela* by James Dillon, Morton Feldman's *Neither* which was highly acclaimed in the international press. At Lincoln Center Festival 2007 Anu sang George Benjamin's "Into the Little Hill", a role specially written for her. The New York Times praised her performance as "luminous".

Komsí has also appeared as soloist with numerous leading orchestras as Berlin Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Vienna Symphoniker, Birmingham Symphony Orch., Stuttgart SWR Symphony Orch., London Sinfonietta, Ensemble Modern and in many of the most prominent concert halls throughout Europe and the United States. She has collaborated with important conductors like Sir Roger Norrington, Oliver Knussen, Sakari Oramo, Osmo Vänskä, Rudolf Barshai, Leif Segerstam, Jukka-Pekka Saraste and George Benjamin. Her collaboration with Esa-Pekka Salonen began in 1988 with the world premiere of *FLOOF* including a recording (Warner) and since the premiere approximately 30 performances all over the world. Salonen composed his orchestral work *Wing on Wing* showcasing the coloratura voices of the Komsí twin sisters, as did Korean composer Unsuk Chin in her *Cantatrix Sopránica*.

Anu Komsí's Repertory is versatile, ranging from baroque to progressive jazz improvisation. She has often performed works such as Debussy; "Chansons de Jeunesse", Lutoslawski "Chantefleurs et Chantefables", Sibelius; "Luonnotar" Mahler: "Symphony No 4", György Kurtag: "Kafka-Fragments", Jonathan Harvey: "White as Jasmine", Judith Weir: "Natural History", Couperin: "Lecons des Tenebres", Bach: Cantatas, Oratorios, Schumann: "Faust Scenes", Schönberg: "String Quartet No 2", Kimmo Hakola: "Le Sacrifice".

Komsí has recorded for Deutsche Grammophon, Hänssler Classic, Warner, Ondine and Bis. Her most recent CD, *Sydän* (including songs composed to texts of Finnish poet Eino Leino, by contemporary-Saariaho, Kaipainen-and national romantic composers) was released by Alba in 2007. Recent achievement is to be part of the Gramophone-Prize winner Record of the year 2008 in the Contemporary Category as the soloist in Jonathan Harvey's "White as Jasmine" (NMC, D141).

A recent challenge for Anu Komsí is to spearhead a new Opera Company in her hometown Kokkola. She is founder and Artistic Director of the Kokkola Opera on the Finnish West Coast. The company's first production was Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* in 2006 (repeated in summer 2007) which was conducted by Sakari Oramo, and where Anu also sang the role of Susanna. The production was highly acclaimed in Finland as "Innovation of the Year". Anu sang the leading role of Rosalinda in Kokkola Opera's new production of *Die Fledermaus* by J. Strauss in the "Kokkola Operawinter" 2007-2008 and which toured also in Helsinki with huge success among the critics. For the 2008 Opera summer festival in Kokkola, Anu has planned an Italian diptych including

Carissimi's Jephta and Puccini's Suor Angelica as a Title "Offerere" and she also plans to perform Schönberg's "Pierrot Lunaire" at the Festival.

Future engagements include touring several cities like Vienna, Turin , Milan, Lucern and Liverpool with Benjamin's Opera "Into the Little Hill" , with Kaija Saariaho's "Leino-songs" Anu will be touring in Osaka Festival, in Casa da Musica Porto and in Helsinki with the Finnish Radio Orchestra as the songs are specially dedicated to her. She will be singing her debut with the San Fransisco Symphony Orchestra&Oramo in June 2008 .

Her future roles in Operas include "Lulu" with West Coast Kokkola Opera&FRSO in Helsinki which will be also televised, " Nanetta" in Finnish National Opera , a titlerole in a new Premiere of Sebastian Fagerlund which will be premiered in Kokkola Operasummer 2009 and further touring in Stockholm Concerthouse.

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