

PRIMA CLASSIC PRESENTS

PRIMA
CLASSIC

MARINA REBEKA
MODESTAS PITRĒNAS

SINFONIETTA RĪGA
LATVIAN RADIO CHOIR

Credo

Marina Rebeka's New Album

2020 Artist of the Year - International Classical Music Awards

Release on December 2020

Catalog PRIMA007

For all press enquiries contact Edgardo Vertanessian
vertanessian@primaclassic.com

EPK and Booklet downloads from www.primaclassic.com

Digital Release UPC 850000325142

The Orchard Distribution
www.theorchard.com

Physical CD UPC 850000325135

Proper Distribution (World)
www.propermusicgroup.com
MVD Distribution (USA)
www.mvdaudio.com

Credo

MARINA REBEKA • MODESTAS PITRĒNAS

SINFONIETTA RĪGA • LATVIAN RADIO CHOIR

- | | |
|---|---|
| 01. LAUDATE DOMINUM
W. A. MOZART VESPERAE SOLENNES
DE CONFESSORE, K. 339: V | 09. IHR HABT NUN TRAURIGKEIT
J. BRAHMS: EIN DEUTSCHES
REQUIEM, OP. 45: V |
| 02. AVE MARIA (VOLGARIZZATA DA DANTE)
G. VERDI | 10. FRONDI TENERE... OMBRA MAI FU
G. F. HANDEL: SERSE, HWV 40, ACT I |
| 03. AVE MARIA
V. VAVILOV, G. CACCINI | 11. AVE MARIA
C. SAINT-SAËNS |
| 04. BIST DU BEI MIR, BWV 508
J. S. BACH, G. H. STÖLZEL | 12. AVE MARIA
F. SCHUBERT, D. 839 |
| 05. PIETÀ, SIGNORE
A. STRADELLA | 13. AVE MARIA
P. MASCAGNI: CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA |
| 06. LA VERGINE DEGLI ANGELI
G. VERDI LA FORZA DEL
DESTINO, ACT II | 14. THY HAND, BELINDA...
WHEN I AM LAID IN EARTH
H. PURCELL: DIDO AND AENEAS, ACT III |
| 07. PIE JESU
G. FAURÉ, REQUIEM OP. 48: IV | 15. AVE MARIA
J. S. BACH, CH. GOUNOD |
| 08. VERGIN TUTTO AMOR
F. DURANTE | 16. ADAGIO IN G MINOR
(ARR. FOR VOICE AND ORCHESTRA)
T. ALBINONI, R. GIAZOTTO |

Sacred music that has comforted humanity for centuries

During times of need and tribulation humanity turns its eyes to the Holy, searching for comfort, reassurance, and strength. Marina Rebeka's new album, CREDO, is an uplifting selection of pieces written by some of the most extraordinary composers of our Western civilization. This timeless, heavenly music is particularly meaningful today.

From Bach and Mozart to Verdi and Mascagni, Handel and Purcell to Brahms and Schubert, but also Fauré, Gounod, and Saint-Saëns; Albinoni, Durante, Stradella, and Caccini (Vavilov).

Performed by the Grammy Award-winner Sinfonietta Riga along with the world-renowned Latvian Radio Choir, conducted with incredible subtlety by Maestro Modestas Pitrenas.

Marina Rebeka, soprano

Latvian soprano Marina Rebeka is one of the leading opera singers of our time.

Since her international breakthrough at the Salzburg Festival in 2009 under the baton of Riccardo Muti, Rebeka has been a regular guest at the world's most prestigious concert halls and opera houses, such as the Teatro alla Scala (Milan), the Opéra National de Paris, the Metropolitan Opera (New York), the Royal Opera House Covent Garden (London), the Bavarian State Opera (Munich), the Vienna State Opera and the Zurich Opera House, among many others.

She collaborates with leading conductors such as Riccardo Muti, Zubin Mehta, Antonio Pappano, Valery Gergiev, Fabio Luisi, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Daniele Gatti. The variety of her repertoire ranges from Baroque, through bel canto and Verdi to Tchaikovsky and Britten.

As an active and widely acclaimed concert performer, Rebeka has given recitals at many prestigious stages of the world such as the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, the Großes Festspielhaus in Salzburg, Opernhaus Zürich, and others.

Rebeka's discography includes releases with Deutsche Grammophon, Warner Classics (EMI), BR Klassik, and Naxos. She recorded Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle*; Mozart Arias; *Amor fatale* (Rossini arias); the full opera recordings of Verdi's *Luisa Miller* and Mozart's *La Clemenza di Tito*. With her own record label Prima Classic, she released *Spirito* (scenes and arias of the dramatic bel canto); the integral studio recording of Verdi's opera *La Traviata*; and her latest album *Elle* (French opera arias).

In December 2016, Marina Rebeka was granted the Order of the Three Stars, the highest award of the Republic of Latvia, for her cultural achievements. In the 2017/18 season, she was named the first-ever artist in residence by the Münchner Rundfunkorchester. In 2020 she received the "Artist of the Year" award by the International Classic Music Awards (ICMA).

www.marinarebeka.com

Modestas Pitrenas, conductor

Modestas Pitrenas is a Lithuanian conductor who has quickly established himself internationally as a conductor equally at ease on the concert platform as in the opera house. He was appointed in 2015 as Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra in Vilnius. Besides that, starting in the season 2018/2019 he took on the position of Chief Conductor of the Symphony Orchestra and Theatre St Gallen.

Modestas Pitrenas studied at the Mozarteum in Salzburg and at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre in Vilnius. He took part in masterclasses with conductors such as Esa-Pekka Salonen, Jorma Panula and Helmuth Rilling. In 2003 he won first prize in the 7th Grzegorz Fitelberg Conducting Competition in Katowice (Poland), as well as the special prize awarded by the Silesian Philharmonie, which led to a number of engagements with the leading symphony orchestras of Poland. Having held the positions of Chief Conductor of the Symphony Orchestra in Kaunas, Lithuania (2006–2011) and General Music Director of the Latvian National Opera in Riga (2008–2014).

His considerable operatic repertoire includes Wagner's *Rienzi*, *Die Walküre* and *Der fliegende Holländer*, Puccini's *Le Willli*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Tosca*, *La Rondine* and *Turandot*, *il Trittico*, Strauss' *Salome*, Bizet's *Carmen*, Verdi's *Nabucco*, *Aida* and *Don Carlo*, Massenet's *Werther* and Tchaikovsky's *Pique Dame*, *Mazeppa* and *Eugen Onegin* as well as *Love and other Demons* by Péter Eötvös and Prokofiev's *The Gambler*.

Modestas Pitrenas made his debut with Mozart's *Zauberflöte* at Cologne Opera, and has been guest conductor at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein, the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, the National Opera in Warsaw, the Aalto Theater Essen, Opera Stuttgart and the Finnish National Opera in Helsinki. He has directed symphony concerts with orchestras across the whole of Europe, in Japan, India and China.

In 2010 he was awarded the Latvian Music Prize, and in 2012 honoured with the Lithuanian National Arts and Culture Prize as well as with a Prize of Baltic Assembly. Since 2003 he has been teaching conducting at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre in Vilnius.

Sinfonietta Rīga

Youthful ardour, joy of learning and discovery of new horizons are the traits that best describe the Grammy-winning State Chamber Orchestra Sinfonietta Rīga. Since its foundation in 2006, the orchestra's artistic director and chief conductor has been Normunds Šnē. Sinfonietta Rīga musicians are young, erudite and bursting with creativity. They are assiduous students of the musical heritage of the First and Second Viennese School and eager presenters of the musical phenomena and styles of the 20th century, while continuing to look for the brightest revelations in contemporary music scene. Among the ambitions of the orchestra is promotion and development of chamber symphony genre in Latvian music, therefore twice a year Sinfonietta Rīga commissions a new chamber symphony score to contemporary Latvian composers.

Sinfonietta Rīga often collaborates with guest conductors, and has staged thematically and stylistically varied programmes together with Paavo Järvi, Heinz Holliger, John Storgårds, Christoph Poppen, Olari Elts, Juha Kangas and Tõnu Kaljuste.

Among the brilliant soloists that have performed together with Sinfonietta Rīga are classical singers Julia Lezhneva and Inga Kalna; pianists Kristian Bezuidenhout, Nelson Goerner and Yevgeny Sudbin; internationally renowned Latvian organist Iveta Apkalna; violinists Isabelle Faust, Kolja Blacher, Baiba Skride, Pekka Kuusisto and Thomas Zehetmair; cellists Sol Gabetta and Jean-Guihen Queyras; and the members of the Berlin-based Artemis Quartet – violinist Vineta Sareika and violist Gregor Sigl, as well as Ukrainian violist Maxim Rysanov. The orchestra has also enjoyed collaborations with clarinetist and composer Jörg Widmann; trombone soloist Christian Lindberg; percussionists Martin Grubinger, Evelyn Glennie and Peter Erskine; accordionist Ksenija Sidorova; Argentinian bandoneon player Marcelo Nisinman; oboe soloist Alexei Ogrintchouk; and early music experts Andrew Lawrence-King and Enrico Onofri.

For its musical and cultural contribution Sinfonietta Rīga has received the coveted national seal of approval – the Grand Latvian Music Award – four times. Its participation in the recording of Adam's Lament by Estonian composer Arvo Pärt, released by ECM, brought the orchestra the acclaimed Grammy Award. Sinfonietta Rīga has recorded numerous other albums that have been released by its devoted partners Wergo, Ondine, Onyx, Edition Records, Challenge Records, Signum Records and Latvian national record label SKANI. The orchestra's latest studio album, recorded together with violist Maxim Rysanov, is released in spring 2020 by BIS Records.

Latvian Radio Choir

The Latvian Radio Choir is a unique, award-winning ensemble of professional singers that offers its audiences an extraordinary variety of repertoire ranging from early music to the most sophisticated scores of contemporary compositions. The choir has recorded the Grammy Award-winning album Adam's Lament (ECM) composed by Arvo Pärt and conducted by Tõnu Kaljuste. It is a repeat winner of the Great Music Award of Latvia (the highest national award for professional achievement in music) and has received the Latvian Cabinet of Ministers Award. The choir's recording of Sergei Rachmaninov's All-Night Vigil was praised by Gramophone as the best recording of February 2013 and ranked among the 25 best albums of the year by the American radio station NPR.

The Latvian Radio Choir has performed at many of the world's most renowned concert halls: Concertgebouw and Muziekgebouw (the Netherlands), Elbphilharmonie (Germany), Duke University Chapel (USA), Théâtre des Champs-Élysées and Cité de la Musique-Philharmonie de Paris (France), Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center and the Walt Disney Concert Hall (USA), Konzerthaus Berlin (Germany), the Library of Congress (USA), Queen Elizabeth Hall (UK) and the Dresden Frauenkirche (Germany).

SIGVARDŠ KLĀVA has been the artistic director of the Latvian Radio Choir (LRC) since 1992. As a result of his steady efforts, the LRC has become an internationally recognized, vocally distinctive musical group welcome at the top music festivals and invited to collaborate with the most outstanding composers and conductors. Sigvards Klāva studied conducting at the JVLAM, the Bachakademie Stuttgart, the St. Petersburg Conservatory and masterclasses at the Oregon Bach Festival. He has been a professor in the conducting department at JVLMA since 2000.



Credits:

Marina Rebeka, soprano
Modestas Pitrenas, conductor
Sinfonietta Riga
Latvian Radio Choir

Producers: Marina Rebeka, Laila Holberga, and Anete Toča
Executive Producer: Edgardo Vertanessian
Recording, Editing, Mixing, and Mastering: Edgardo Vertanessian
Recorded at the Reformation Church, Riga, Latvia
Artwork design: Andrew Vlasov / Booklet design: Matīss Zvaigzne
Photos Marina Rebeka: Tatyana Vlasova

PRIMA
CLASSIC