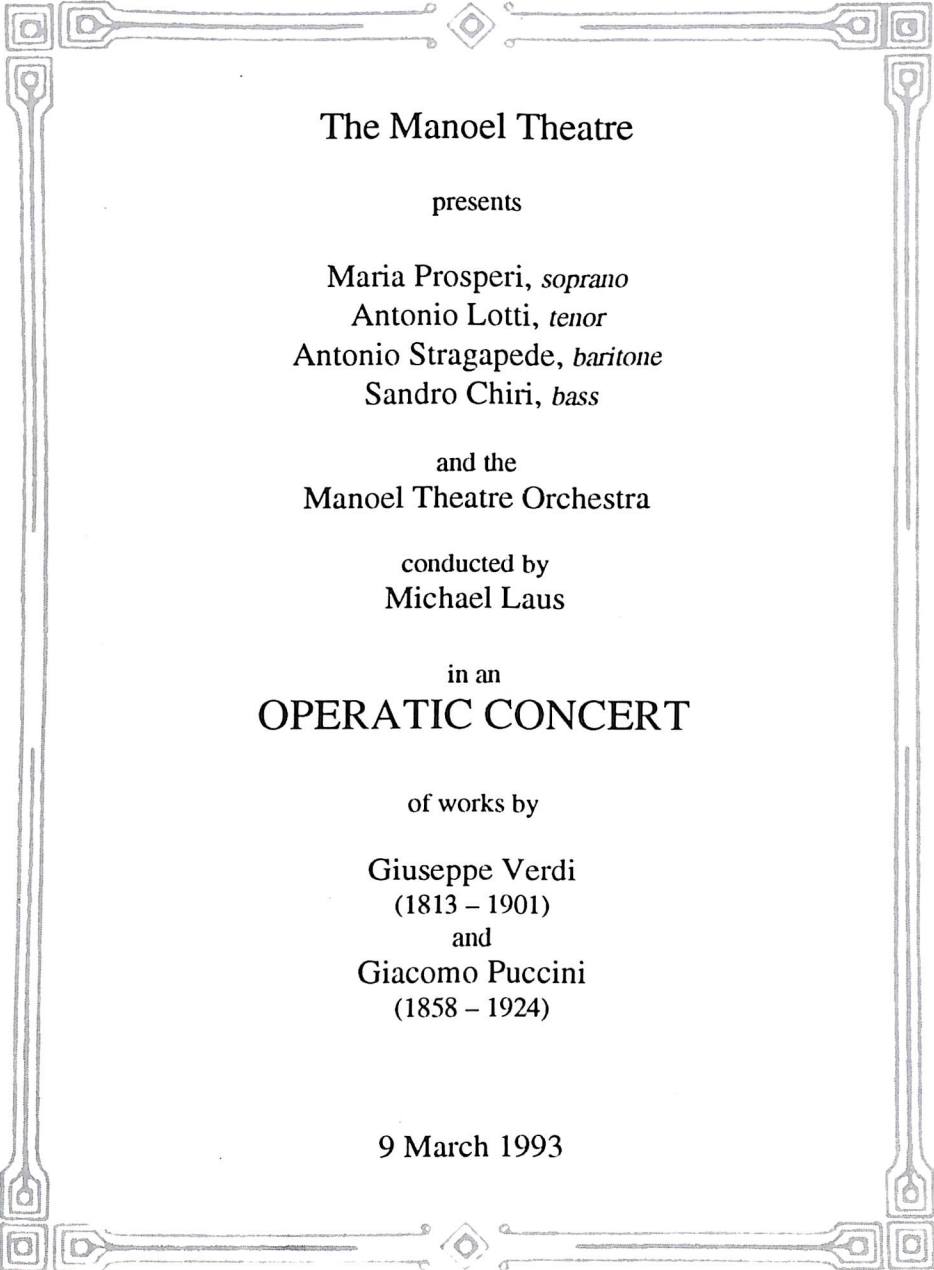

TEATRU
MANOEL



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The Manoel Theatre

presents

Maria Prosperi, *soprano*
Antonio Lotti, *tenor*
Antonio Stragapede, *baritone*
Sandro Chiri, *bass*

and the
Manoel Theatre Orchestra

conducted by
Michael Laus

in an
OPERATIC CONCERT

of works by

Giuseppe Verdi
(1813 – 1901)
and
Giacomo Puccini
(1858 – 1924)

9 March 1993

PROGRAMME

Verdi	<i>La Traviata</i>	Prelude Act I
Verdi	<i>Simon Boccanegra</i>	Il lacerato spirito
Verdi	<i>Luisa Miller</i>	Quando le sere al placido
Puccini	<i>Madame Butterfly</i>	Un bel di vedremo
Verdi	<i>Un Ballo in Maschera</i>	Eri tu
Puccini	<i>Tosca</i>	Mario, Mario, Mario

Interval (20 minutes)

Verdi	<i>Don Carlo</i> <i>Rigoletto</i>	Ella giamma, m'amo Cortigiani, vil razza dannata
Puccini	<i>Manon Lescaut</i>	Donna non vidi mai
Verdi	<i>Il Trovatore</i>	Tace la notte placida
Verdi	<i>Rigoletto</i>	Quel vecchio maledivami
Verdi	<i>La Forza del Destino</i>	Sinfonia



Soprano **MARIA PROSPERI** studied at the Dame Nellie Melba Conservatory in Melbourne, Australia and in Rome with Margaret Baker, Steven Boach and Giuseppe Morelli.

She won the first prize in the 1986 edition of the Concerto Mattia Battistini as Leonora in *La Forza del Destino*, a role which she repeated in Bari, Piacenza and the Teatro Eliseo in Rome. Other roles include Mimi in *La Bohème*, Leonora in *Il Trovatore*, Paolina in *Il Poliuto* and Mariella in *Il Piccolo Marat*.

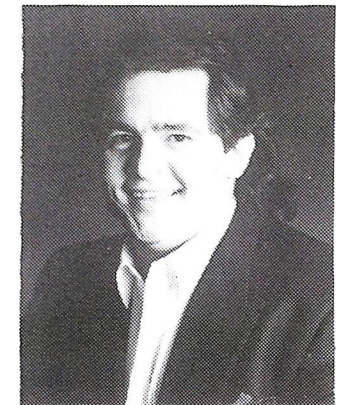
She interpreted the leading role in *Madama Butterfly* at the Festival di Lille, and at the Stadtheater in Berne played Leonora in *Il*

Trovatore, Maria in *Guglielmo Ratcliff* at the Teatro Massimo di Bellini, in *La Wally* at the Bregenz Festival and in *Falstaff* and *Madama Butterfly* with Scottish Opera in 1991.

Ms Prospero has also given various concerts and recitals in Italy, France, Korea and other places. Next July she will appear as Georgetta in *Tabarro* at the Festival dei due mondi di Spoleto.

Brazil born tenor of Italian nationality **ANTONIO LOTTI** graduated from the Santa Cecilia Conservatory in San Paolo, Brazil and made his debut at the Teatro Municipale di San Paolo as Mario Cavaradossi in *Tosca*. From 1982 to 1986 he appeared in all the main Brazilian theatres playing, amongst others, Don Jose in *Carmen*, Andrea Chenier, Enzo in *La Gioconda*, Rodolfo in *La Bohème*, Paco in *La Vide Breve* etc.

His European debut as Don Jose was at Portugal's Teatro Rivoli at Oporto. This was followed by his interpretation of Cavaradossi in various Dutch theatres whilst in Italy, he first appeared at Bologna's Teatro Comunale as Paolo in *Francesca da Rimini* followed by Rodolfo in *Luisa Miller*. He has toured extensively in South America and is scheduled to appear in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, the Hague, Oslo and Catania in the near future.

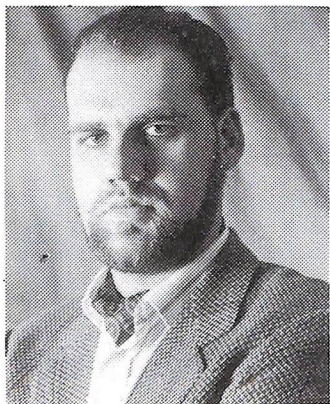
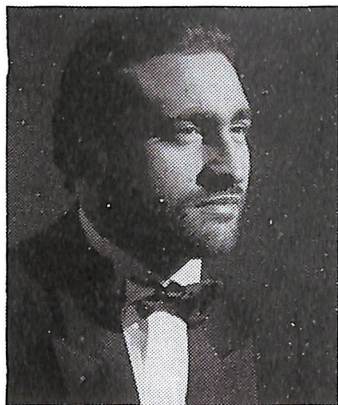


Baritone **ANTONIO STRAGAPEDE** studied at the Scuola di Musica A. Dvorak of Molfetta with Renzo Scorsoni and Maria Coranada Herrera besides attending various "perfezionamento" courses amongst them that conducted by Rodolfo Colletti on *Tecnica e Stile Vocale*.

He has given various concerts and recitals all over Italy and abroad, which include appearances at the Teatro San Carlo di Napoli under the direction of Giacomo Maggiore, il Teatro Regia di Parma with Maestro Hubert Sudant, and at Villach and Gratz in Austria, with Katia Ricciarelli under the direction of Giorgio Croci.

Besides taking part in concert versions of various operas like *Tosca*, *I Pagliacci*, *Forza del Destino*, *La Traviata*, *La Bohème*, *Rigoletto* etc he has appeared in *Omaggio a Maria Callas* and *Omaggio a Tito Gobbi*. In Frankfurt, he has taken part in a recording of *La Fanciulla del West* for the Capriccio recording company.

Winner of various concerts like the Mattia Battistini in Riete, Paolo Neglia in Enna, Voci nuove per la lirica, "Katia Ricciarelli" in Mantova and Mario del Monaco di Marsa dello Spazio he made his stage debut in the role of Oratore in *Flauto Magico* and his overseas debut as Marcello in *La Bohème* on a tour in Germany.



Up and coming bass singer **SANDRO CHIRI** is also an accomplished violinist, and in 1987, formed part of the young musicians' orchestra of the Scuola di Musica in Milan which toured all over Italy and Europe besides recording several discs.

He has studied lyrical singing privately with Alfredo Pinaldi since 1988. He has since taken part in three vocal competitions obtaining the following encouraging results. He was finalist in the Voci nuove per la lirica held at Pavia in May 1991; a semi finalist at the Parma held Corale Verdi in July 1991 and finalist at the Iris A Corradetti at Padova in October 1992. Mr Chiri has taken part in various recitals and has

studied the roles of Colline in *Bohème*, Re in *Aida*, Sparafucile in *Rigoletto* and Padre Guardiano in *La Forza del Destino*.

