Pumeza Matshikiza - Arias (2016)

01. La bohème: Sì. Mi chiamano Mimì 02. La Wally: Ebben? Ne andrò lontana 03. Suor Angelica: Senza mamma, o bimbo, tu sei morto 04. Rusalka, Op. 114, B. 203: Song to the Moon 05. Turandot: Tu che di gel sei cinta 06. L'heure espagnole, M. 52: Oh! La pitoyable aventure! 07. La paloma 08. Cinco Canciones Negras: No. 2, Punto de Habañera 09. Si tu le voulais 10. Après un rêve, Op. 7 No. 1 11. A Chloris 12. Lungi dal caro bene 13. Le nozze di Figaro, K. 492: Giunse alfin il momento 14. Le nozze di Figaro, K. 492: Deh vieni non tardar 15. Orfeo ed Euridice, Wq. 30: Che fiero momento 16. Dido and Aeneas, Z. 626: When I Am Laid in Earth Aarhus Symfoniorkester Tobias Ringborg - conductor

Pumeza's second album ARIAS is a collection of many of the great opera roles in which Pumeza has blossomed: Mimi in La Boheme; Susanna in Le Nozze di Figaro; Liu in Turandot; Dido in Dido & Aeneas; Concepcion in L'heure espagnole together with such operatic greatest hits as 'The Song to the Moon' from Rusalka and 'Ebben, ne andro lontano' from La Wally. The album also features new arrangements of art songs such as Faure's 'Après un rêve' and Reynaldo Hahn's A Chloris as well as a Rosa Ponselle favourite, Tosti's 'Si tu le voulais'

Also included are arrangements of Sarti's famous aria 'Lungi del caro bene' made by DECCA for Renata Tebaldi in the 1970s and recorded here for the first time since then and an arrangement of the classic song 'La Paloma' originally made for Victoria de los Angeles. --- mdt.co.uk

Described as "one of today's most exciting new operatic voices" (Independent), South African

soprano Pumeza Matshikiza is one of today's rising opera stars. An exclusive Decca Classics recording artist, her debut album "Voice of Hope" was released in 2014. Her second album is slated for release in spring 2016. Pumeza Matshikiza kicks off the 15/16 season singing solo concerts in Copenhagen, Gothenburg and Krakow. In October she makes her debut with the Orchestra dell'Accademia Santa Cecilia in Rome, singing the world premiere of Luca Francesconi's Bread, Water and Salt, based on the famous speech by Nelson Mandela. The concerts that open Santa Cecelia's season are led by Sir Antonio Pappano and broadcast live on TV and radio. The piece is repeated as part of Radio France's Festival Présence in February 2016, Mikko Franck is conducting the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France. On the operatic stage, Pumeza Matshikiza is singing Mimì (La Bohème) and as well as making her role debut as Micaëla (Carmen), both at the Staatsoper Stuttgart, where she has been an ensemble member for four years already. Pumeza Matshikiza can be heard singing in recitals in London, Amsterdam and Salle Gaveau in Paris. The CD release concert of her new album is schedule for March 2016 in Aarhus. She also joins Rolando Villazón for concerts at the BASF Feierabendhaus Ludwigshafen as well as Schloss Salem and gives a solo concert at the Festival de la Vézère, France, before closing the season with a recital at the Rheinvokal Festival.

Recent engagements include her debut as Eve in the world premiere of Giorgio Battistelli's CO2 at Teatro alla Scala in Milan, Dido in Dido and Aeneas with the English Concert Orchestra at the Bristol Old Vic as part of the Bristol Proms series; two concerts with the Aarhus Symphony Orchestra in Denmark; an appearance at the BBC Proms in the Park and a concert tour with Rolando Villazón that took her to Vienna's Konzerthaus, Paris' Théâtre des Champs-Elysées, Laeiszhalle Hamburg, Gasteig Munich, Kuppelsaal Hanover, Tonhalle Düsseldorf and Helsinki. Recent roles in Stuttgart where the soprano has been member of the ensemble for the past three seasons include Mimì (La Bohème), Susanna (Le nozze di Figaro), Ännchen (Der Freischütz), Zerlina (Don Giovanni) and Pamina (Die Zauberflöte).

Pumeza Matshikiza studied at the University of Cape Town College of Music and the Royal College of Music with a full scholarship. Roles at the RCM included Marenka (The Bartered Bride), Fiordiligi (Così fan tutte), Rosalinde (Die Fledermaus), Concepcion (L'heure espagnole), Poppea (L'incoronazione di Poppea) and Contessa (Le nozze di Figaro). The young soprano also participated in masterclasses with renowned artists such as Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Sir Thomas Allen, Renata Scotto, Joan Rogers, Paul Farrington, Philip Langridge and Ileana Cotrubas. She has worked with accompanists Malcolm Martineau, Julius Drake and Simon Lepper.

Pumeza Matshikiza was a member of the Jette Parker Young Artists' Programme at the Royal Opera House from 2007-2009 and could be heard as Blumenmädchen in Wagner's Parsifal, Slave in Strauss' Salome, Innocent (The Minotaur), Witch in Dido and Aeneas, Sandmann

(Hänsel und Gretel) and Tebaldo in Verdi's Don Carlo, conducted by Antonio Pappano. In January, 2010 Pumeza Matshikiza was awarded with the 1st Prize in the Veronica Dunne International Singing Competition and became an Associate Artist of the Classical Opera Company, singing the title role in Mozart's Zaide for which she was awarded with the Patrick Fyffe-Dame Hilda Brackett Prize. --- centrestagemanagement.com

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