

Sunday, February 22, 2009, 3pm
Zellerbach Hall

Cecilia Bartoli, *mezzo-soprano*
Sergio Ciomei, *piano*

PROGRAM

Maria Malibran's Salon Romantique

Gioacchino Rossini (1792–1868) La regata veneziana, from *Péchés de vieillesse*
(Three songs in Venetian dialect)
(1857–1868)
I. Anzoleta avanti la regata
II. Anzoleta co' passa la regata
III. Anzoleta dopo la regata

Vincenzo Bellini (1801–1835) L'abbandono (1835)
Il fervido desiderio (aft. 1827)
Vaga luna
La farfalletta (1813)

Bellini Dolente immagine (1821)
Malinconia, ninfa gentile, from *Sei Ariette* (1829)
Ma rendi pur contento

Rossini Or che di fiori adorno (1831)

Rossini Beltà crudele (1821)
Canzonetta spagnuola (1821)
La danza, from *Les soirées musicales* (1835)

INTERMISSION

Gaetano Donizetti (1797–1848) Il barcaiolo, from *Nuits d'été à Pausilippe* (1836)
Amore e morte, from *Soirées d'automne à L'Infrascati* (1837)
La conocchia, from *Soirées d'automne à L'Infrascati* (1837)
Me voglio fa 'na casa, from *Soirées d'automne à L'Infrascati* (1837)

Rossini From *Péchés de vieillesse* (1857–1868)
Ariette à l'ancienne
L'opheline du Tyrol
La grande coquette

Pauline Viardot-García (1821–1910) Havanaise
Hai luli!
Manuel del Pópulo Vicente
Rodríguez García (1775–1832) Yo que soy contrabandista, from
El poeta calculista (1804)
Maria Malibran (1808–1836) Rataplan (1836)

Cecilia Bartoli appears by arrangement with IMG Artists, New York, New York.

Cecilia Bartoli records exclusively for Decca.

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Decca / Uli Weber

For more than two decades, mezzo-soprano **Cecilia Bartoli** has undeniably been one of the leading artists in the field of classical music. All over the world, her new operatic roles, her concert programs and recording projects—in exclusivity with Decca—are expected with great eagerness and curiosity. The exceptional amount of six million CDs sold, more than 200 weeks ranking in the international pop charts, numerous Golden Discs, four Grammy Awards, eight Echos and a Bambi (Germany), two Classical Brit Awards (UK), the Victoire de la Musique (France), and many other prestigious awards reflect the immense success of her solo albums *Vivaldi*, *Gluck*, *Salieri* and *Opera proibita* and that she is firmly established as today's bestselling classical artist.

Thus, Ms. Bartoli brings classical music close to the hearts of millions of people throughout the world. Apart from that, she is proud that through their popularity, her projects have caused a widespread re-evaluation and rediscovery of the neglected composers and forgotten repertoire which she puts up for discussion.

It is not surprising that Herbert von Karajan, Daniel Barenboim and Nikolaus Harnoncourt were among the first conductors Ms. Bartoli worked

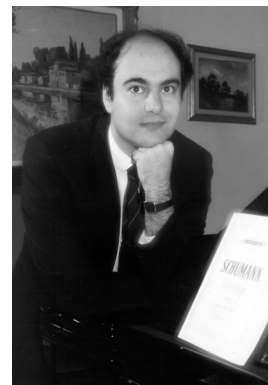
with. They noticed her talent at a very early stage when she had barely completed her vocal studies with her parents in her hometown, Rome. Since then, many more conductors, pianists and orchestras of highest renown have been her regular partners. In recent years, her work has begun to focus on collaborations with the most significant period instrument orchestras (Akademie für Alte Musik, Les Arts Florissants, Concentus Musicus Wien, Freiburger Barockorchester, Il Giardino Armonico, Kammerorchester Basel, Les Musiciens du Louvre, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Orchestra La Scintilla). Projects with orchestras where Ms. Bartoli assumes the overall artistic responsibility have become increasingly important to her and were crowned by the jointly developed and performed programs with the Vienna Philharmonic.

Ms. Bartoli regularly sings in the most important concert halls in Europe, the United States and Japan. Her stage appearances include prestigious opera houses and festivals, such as the Metropolitan Opera in New York, the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, in London, La Scala in Milan, the Bavarian State Opera in Munich, the Salzburg Festival and the Zürich Opera House, where she has presented many of her operatic roles for the first time. Most recently, her roles have included Rossini's Fiorilla in *Il Turco in Italia* at Covent Garden and two Handelian heroines, Cleopatra (in *Giulio Cesare* with Marc Minkowski) and Semele (with William Christie), in Zurich.

Currently, Ms. Bartoli devotes her time to the early 19th century—the era of Italian Romanticism and *bel canto*—and especially the legendary singer Maria Malibran. Her 200th birthday on March 24, 2008, was marked by a historic day in Malibran's birthplace Paris: Ms. Bartoli sang three concerts in one day as the centerpiece of a Malibran Marathon at Salle Pleyel—collaborating with Lang Lang, Vadim Repin, Adam Fischer and Myung-Whun Chung—while the City of Paris showed her Barcelona Concert on a big screen outside the Hôtel de Ville, where Ms. Bartoli's mobile Malibran Museum was stationed to honor that special day. Further bicentenary events were the Grammy-nominated *Maria* CD, *The Barcelona Concert/Malibran Rediscovered* DVD, extensive concert tours as well as operatic appearances as Cenerentola, Sonnambula and Hálevy's Clari—in

a Malibran opera which had not been performed since 1829.

Cecilia Bartoli has been endowed with the Italian Knighthood and is an "Accademico effettivo" of Santa Cecilia, Rome, a French Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres and an Honorary Member of the Royal Academy of Music, London. Most recently, she was given the prestigious Italian prize "Bellini d'Oro" and a "Medalla de oro al merito en las bellas artes," one of the highest awards of the Spanish Ministry of Culture.



Pianist **Sergio Ciomei** was born in Genoa in 1965. He graduated piano in 1984, under the guidance of Franco Trabucco, winning a prize for the best diploma of the year. He then took part in master-classes held by Muriel Chemin, Piero Rattalino

and Andràs Schiff. He first achieved international acclaim in 1991, when he won the second prize at the International Mozart Competition in Salzburg's Mozarteum.

Alongside his piano activity, Mr. Ciomei studied harpsichord under Christophe Rousset and Jan Willem Jansen and fortepiano under Andreas Staier and Laura Alvini. From 1989 to 1994, he was assistant maestro to Frans Brüggen and Kees Boeke at the baroque music master-classes in Siena's Accademia Chigiana.

Mr. Ciomei has a busy concert schedule all around the world. As a piano and harpsichord soloist, he gives recitals and performs under the baton of maestros such as Brüggen, Fabio Biondi, Jean-Jacques Kantorow and Pino Klinge. As a chamber musician, he plays together with some of the leading artists of our time, such as Biondi, Boeke, Brüggen, Giovanni Antonini, Patrick Gallois and Maurice Steger. He has performed at such venues as the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Auditorio Nacional de Música, Berlin Philharmonie, Teatro Regio di Torino and the Salzburg Mozarteum.

Mr. Ciomei is one of the founding members of the ensemble Triple Concordia, and his recordings with this ensemble have won many awards around the world. He frequently collaborates with such prestigious baroque orchestras as Il Giardino Armonico, Europa Galante, Le Musicien Nove and La Scintilla at such venues as the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Grand Théâtre de Genève, Wigmore Hall in London and Musikverein in Vienna.

Mr. Ciomei has made recordings for the Nuova Era, Opus 111, Dynamic, Cantus, Philharmonia, Stradivarius, EMI-Virgin, Challenge, Northwest Classics, Sony Classical, Decca and Harmonia Mundi labels. Recently, his recording of Mozart sonatas for fortepiano and violin, with Fabrizio Cipriani, has been described as "one of the finest Mozart recordings of all time" by the *Ontomo Guide* for the Best Chamber Music.

In 2001, Mr. Ciomei began a collaboration with mezzo-soprano Cecilia Bartoli, accompanying the great Italian singer in some of the world's most important concert halls. In 2004, they played a series of concerts in the United States and Russia, with concerts at great halls such as the Dorothy Chandler Pavillion and the Great Hall of Moscow. These performances won unanimous acclaim from both critics and audiences.

Since 1999, Mr. Ciomei has also been active as a conductor, mainly in the field of baroque music, performed on period instruments. His performances of Bach, Telemann, Handel and Mozart have been received enthusiastically all over Europe. He has been invited to conduct the Triple Concordia Orchestra in the next concert seasons, at the Festival "Antiqua" in Genoa, the Festival Handel in Halle and more, collaborating with such artists as Alfredo Bernardini and Giovanni Antonini.

Recently, Sergio Ciomei was invited by the Kammerorchester Basel as a guest conductor for several baroque projects. This has led to a recording for Sony Classical, the award-winning *Affetti Borocchi* with Marjana Mijanović, and a successful concert tour, with dates in the Berlin Philharmonic, with Ms. Mijanović and Sol Gabetta as soloists.