

Eleni Calenos (soprano)

Greek soprano Eleni Calenos is capturing admiration from critics and audiences for the clarity, warmth and beauty of her voice, and for her dignified characterizations. Of her performance as Tosca, Opera News said: "Eleni Calenos gave a performance for the ages, both vocally and dramatically", and The Wall Street Journal: "The real standout, however, was soprano Eleni Calenos' soaring performance as Tosca--passionate, mercurial, heart-on-the-sleeve, with all the necessary vocal range, stamina and fire." In *Madama Butterfly*, the Houston Press said: "The phenomenon was the Cio-Cio San of Greek soprano Eleni Calenos, whose nuanced characterization was a true wonder to hear. She sailed through her dramatic arias as if buoyed by the stirring music.

In the 2019-2020 season she performed the roles of Cio-Cio San in *Madama Butterfly* with Shreveport Opera and with Opera Santa Barbara, and appeared as Mimi in *La Bohème* with the Cleveland Opera Theater. She performed the role of Santuzza in *Cavalleria Rusticana* for the first Eptapyrgion Festival in Thessaloniki, Greece, and made her debut with the Greek National Opera in Johan Strauss' operetta *Die Fledermaus* as Rosalinda. She also participated at the OPERA OUTDOORS live radio broadcast concert of OPERA OMAHA as a main soloist in August 2020.

In 2018, Ms. Calenos performed as Mimi in *La Bohème* with Opera Santa Barbara and was the soprano soloist in the Maria Callas gala anniversary concert with the Thessaloniki State Symphony Orchestra of Greece, in her native city. In the summer of 2018, she covered the role of Cio-Cio San in *Madama Butterfly* at the prestigious Glyndebourne Festival in the UK.

In the fall of 2017, she had her German debut with Wiesbaden's Staatstheater as Saida in the world premiere of the opera *Schönerland* by Søren Nils Eichberg focusing on the subject of refugees. Other appearances include Giorgetta in *Il Tabarro* and the title role in *Suor Angelica* (Opera Delaware & Opera Company of Middlebury), Cio-Cio San in *Madama Butterfly* (Annapolis Opera & Ash Lawn Opera), Tosca (Opera Idaho & LOFT Opera), Mimi in *La Bohème* (Shreveport Opera & Palm Beach Opera), Desdemona in *Otello* (Phoenicia International Festival), Micaëla in *Carmen* (Palm Beach Opera), a New Year's Opera Gala at Athens' Megaron Concert Hall with the Athens State Symphony Orchestra of Greece, Mimi in *La Bohème* and an Opera in the Park concert (Madison Opera), the role of L'Infante in *Le Cid* (Odyssey Opera), and Liù in *Turandot* (Opera Company of Middlebury).

In past seasons, ms. Calenos performed Silvia in Mascagni's *Zanetto* (Odyssey Opera), Antonia in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* (Palm Beach Opera), Lia in Debussy's *L'Enfant Prodigue* (Metro Chamber Orchestra of NY), Liù in *Turandot* (Shreveport Opera & Boston Chorus Pro Musica), Micaëla in *Carmen* (Opera Idaho), Countess in *Le Nozze di Figaro* (Tulsa Opera & Austin Opera), Cio-Cio San in *Madama Butterfly* (Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra, Opera Idaho, Shreveport Opera, Mississippi Opera, & Opera in the Heights), Nedda in *I Pagliacci* (Shreveport Opera), Gilda in *Rigoletto* (Sarasota Opera), Hanna Glawari in *Die lustige Witwe* (Zomeropera, Belgium), Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* and Valencienne in (Utah Festival Opera), Mimi in *La Bohème* (Opera Idaho), Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* (Shreveport Opera), Fiordiligi in *Così Fan Tutte* (Barbados Music Festival), Medora in *Il Corsaro* (Hellenic Music Foundation, NY), Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte* and the title role of *Suor Angelica* with Boston University's Opera Institute, as well as Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* with the Martina Arroyo Foundation. Of her performance, The New York Times said, "Eleni Calenos sang with a strong, clear soprano and was persuasive as a suffering yet haughty Donna Elvira."

Ms. Calenos is an equally consummate performer in the concert and recital repertoire. Works she has performed: Beethoven's 9th Symphony and *Missa Solemnis* (Queens College Choral Society, NY), Mahler's Symphony No 2 (Queens College Choral Society), Verdi's *Messa da Requiem* (Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra, Queens College's Choral Society, Penn State University, Masterworks Chorale, Boston University Symphony at Boston Symphony Hall), Respighi's *Lauda per la Natività del Signore* and Vivaldi's *Gloria* (Sheboygan Symphony Orchestra), and Libby Larsen's cycle *Try me, Good King* (National Opera Center, NY). She was also the soprano soloist in *The Bells* by Rachmaninov, and in *Ein Deutsches Requiem* by Brahms (Lancaster Symphony Orchestra). In the summer of 2013, ms. Calenos appeared at Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center as the soloist in J.Rutter's *Magnificat*. Her concert repertoire also includes Strauss' *Vier letzte Lieder* (Cambridge Symphony Orchestra), Poulenc's *Gloria*, Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*, Nielsen's *Hymnus Amoris* and the title role in Händel's oratorio *Theodora* (Hudson Valley Singers). Eleni

participated in the Meyerbeer Retrospective concert with Mo Eve Queler with Opera Orchestra of New York, and appeared as the principal soloist with Greek composer A. Paraskevas at Weil Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall (Distinguished Concerts International New York).

Her recordings include Mascagni's Zanetto with Odyssey Opera of Boston, and George Tsontakis' Mirologhia, which was released on the KOCH International Classics label with the Albany Symphony Orchestra.

Calenos boasts a long list of awards including the Gerda Lissner Foundation award (2010), and the "Judges Award" from the Connecticut Opera Guild Competition (2009). She also won the Audience Favorite award at the Irma Cooper Competition in Columbus, Ohio (2008), the Schyler Foundation "Career Bridges" Award (2006-2008). She was a finalist of the Oratorio Society of NY competition (2010), the Renata Tebaldi International Vocal Competition in San Marino (2009), and the Concurso del Canto de Bilbao (2008). She was one of the Young American Artists of Glimmerglass in 2010, and a participant of the Martina Arroyo Foundation program "Prelude to Performance" in 2006.

Eleni was a member of Boston University's Opera Institute between the years 2006 and 2008, and holds a Master's Degree in Vocal Performance from Queens College in New York, as well as a Diploma in Violoncello Performance from the Municipal Conservatory of Thessaloniki, Greece.

Upcoming performances: Giorgetta in *Il Tabarro* (Opera Santa Barbara), Soprano solo in Beethoven's 9th Symphony (Athens State Symphony Orchestra), Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth* (Opera Idaho,) Liu in *Turandot* (Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra).

For more information, you could visit ms. Calenos' website www.elenicalenos.com, or follow her "Eleni Calenos Soprano" professional page on Facebook and Instagram.

Dionyssis Mallouhos (piano)

A graduate of the Athens Conservatory (piano class of Georges Arvanitakis). With scholarships of the "Alexander S. Onassis" and "Bakala" Foundations he completed his studies at the Ferenc Liszt Academy in Budapest with Istvan and Màrta Gulyas.

Dionyssis Mallouhos has developed several activities during the last thirty five years: piano performer, TV and Radio producer, redactor of musical articles, pedagogue, administrator in cultural organizations and artistic director in several music festivals.

He is giving recitals and performs chamber music concerts in major concert halls all over Greece and abroad. As a soloist he performed among others with the Athens State Orchestra, the Athens Camerata, the Athens Municipal Symphony Orchestra, the Thessaloniki Municipal Symphony Orchestra, the Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra of Budapest. He recorded solo piano and chamber music works for the Greek State TV and Radio, as well as LPs and CDs (for EMI, SONY, Subways Music, IRIDA Classical, UTOPIA-Mikri Arktos).

Head of Radio 3 (Third Program), the classical music station of the Greek State Radio (2016-2018), where also a producer and presenter of an everyday regular broadcast since 2003 ("Tous les Matins du Triton").

He is teaching piano at the Attikon Conservatory in Athens from 1991, he is giving masterclasses in Athens, Thessaloniki, Kozani, Naoussa, Volos, Sifnos, Herakleion/Creta and he is the coordinator of the post-graduate course "Music without borders".

Co-founder of chamber music ensemble "Eptaihon" (2013).

Visiting piano and chamber music instructor at Académie de Jeunes Solistes (direction: violinist Christophe Boulier, Mézin/Aquitaine/France).

Member of the international nominating committee (among 26 judges from 25 different countries) of Classical:NEXT Innovation Award (prestigious global annual musical award).

He was teaching Music at the Drama School of the National Theatre of Greece (2007 – 2015) and served as director of the Kalamata Municipal Conservatory from 2009 to 2015.

He is a graduate of the Greek National Technical University with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He holds also a master degree from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in Music Culture and Communication (Departments of Music Studies - Communication and Media Studies).