

Sumi Jo – Virtuoso Arias (1995)

Written by bluesever

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01. Rossini - *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*: 'Una voce poco fa' (Rosina) 02. Bellini - *La Sonnambula* (Act 2): 'Ah non credea mirarti' (Amina) 03. Delibes - *Lakme* (Act 2, Scene 10): *The Bell Song* (Lakme) 04. Verdi - *Rigoletto* (Act 1, Scene 13): 'Gualtier Malde...caro nome' (Gilda) 05. Meyerbeer - 'Ombres legeres' (Dinora) 06. Gaetano Donizetti: *The Mad Scene* (Lucie) 07. Strauss - *Adriadne Auf Naxos*: *Zerbinetta's Aria* 08. Bernstein - 'Glitter And Be Gay' (Cunegonde) 09. Mozart - *Die Zauberflote*: 'Der Holle Rache...' (Queen of the Night) 10. Young-Ha – *Boribat* Sumi Jo - soprano Anne Maugue – flute Monte Carlo Philharmonic Orchestra Paolo Olmi – conductor

Korean soprano Sumi Jo has established herself as a remarkable and gifted lyric coloratura soprano in recent years. She has a vast following wherever she goes- whether she is touring Europe, performing in American opera houses or singing in her native Korea. Sumi Jo's good looks, winning personality and acting abilities add to her allure. She's almost the equivalent of Beverly Sills in many ways. Her legato and coloratura technique is thrilling. Her vocal embellishments in any coloratura role is exceptional. Plus, as mentioned, she can really act. I first had the privilege to watch Sumi Jo in a live performance at the Los Angeles Opera. She was performing as Olympia, the doll in Offenbach's "The Tales Of Hoffman." In addition to her vibrant coloratura roulades and passages, she was hilarious and easily won the audience. Among her many roles, she has performed as Rosina (Barber Of Seville), Queen of the Night (Mozart's Magic Flute and long considered her signature role), Lucia Di Lammermoor, Gilda from Rigoletto, Zerbinetta, Lakme, and various other bel canto heroines of Donizetti and Verdi as well as her touching performance as Mimi in Puccini's La Boheme. Sumi Jo has made it as a successful recording artist as well. These days, an opera singer with huge star power cannot dismiss the temptation of recording albums, sometimes in collaboration with other singers or contemporary rock or pop singers. This album features the best of Sumi Jo in appropriately virtuoso arias from bel canto operas. Especially dazzling is her Zerbinetta and Lakme. I urge any fan of Sumi Jo to get this album. Viva the diva. ---amazon.com

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