



- * progressive and innovative art
- * vocal music in creative freedom
- * vocal theatre Carmina Slovenica: new spaces of expressions in the world of music and theatre

Carmina Slovenica is world renowned for its unconventional, progressive and innovative artistic concept of superb singing, drama, and movement.

Carmina Slovenica's unique choregie concept of music theatre projects with adventurous juxtaposition of music from medieval to the present times with fascinating sounds of extended vocal techniques is led by the internationally acclaimed conductor and director Karmina Šilec. With her boldness, provocativeness and erudition that bears no comparison Karmina Šilec transformed this vocal ensemble into a superior artistic formation of the highest rank. The performances of the ensemble are well-known for the precise vocal discipline, exuberant physicality, energy, musical and scenic imagination, authenticity and artistic persuasiveness.

Carmina Slovenica completely reevaluated the existing concepts of vocal music and opened up new spaces of expression. It creates a highly theatrical and visceral experience through vocal music that is both unexpected and provocative. What is particularly fascinating is the sound itself being delivered by the performers with changes of various vocal techniques from throat singing to cultivated belcanto. The result is a unique musical experience.

»unmistakably filling the air with hypnotic magic«

»an exquisite form of unmatched visual and musical poetry«

»a production full of life and artistic skill«

»a display of absolute focus and vigor«

»much more than a top aesthetic musical event – it is an interpretation of life«

»like being in a magic singing ball«

»a spectacle of musical and visual perfection«

»Hosana to one and only God - to God of the purest art«

Carmina Slovenica is one of the leading vocal institutions.

Carmina Slovenica is noted for its innovative programming which explores works from the forefronts of the contemporary music scene.

The ensemble has performed on stages worldwide – from Tokyo Metropolitan Art Space, Grand St. Petersburg Philharmonic Hall, Esplanade Singapore, Teresa Carreño Theatre Caracas, Hong Kong Cultural Centre, RadialSystem Berlin, San Francisco Symphony Hall to Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires, Jahrhuderthalle Bochum, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Space, Théâtre de la Ville Paris, Auditorium Rome.

Carmina Slovenica has been invited to art events of the highest esteem such as the World Music Days (organized by the ISCM), Prototype Festival New York, Festival d'Automne á Paris, Moscow Easter

Festival, Dresdner Musikfestspiele, Ruhrtriennale, the European Symposium on Choral Music (organized by the IFCM), Steirischer Herbst, Holland Festival, Polyfolia, America Cantat, Kunstenfestivaldesarts Brussels, Europa Cantat, Nuit de Choer Brusseless, KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen, Lublin Theatre Confrontation Festival, Melbourne Festival, International Festival Beijing, Choir Olympics etc.

The main aim of the ensemble and its artistic director is a continual search for new music and new fields of work which has already shown results in a wide repertoire it has today; from early and ethnic vocal music to the latest avant-garde. Carmina Slovenica with its characteristic sound and wide-ranged virtuosity is the ideal ensemble for different repertoires – from a cappella music of all genres to vocal instrumental projects.

Concert tours in almost all countries of Europe, the USA, Canada, Africa, Central and South America, Japan, Malaysia, Australia and China, many top awards at international choral competitions, participation in various international projects, recordings made for many radio and television stations, 18 CDs, 3 DVDs and 1 LP produced, excellent reviews of the ensemble's performances by musical experts and critics ... all these achievements speak for themselves and confirm the ensemble's remarkable reputation.

Carmina Slovenica was awarded by more than 100 awards and recognitions at home and abroad, among them with prestigious theater award Golden Mask, the Prešern Found Award, Ford Award for preservation of natural and cultural heritage, absolute first place with 100% points at International competition Kalundborg at Denmark, with most outstanding choir of competition "Kathaumixw 94", and many others. Carmina Slovenica performs with an artistry that inspires audiences and critics alike and stands as a role model in the international choir movement.

Choregie projects Toxic Psalms, Fortuna Won't Be Fauvel's Match!, Placebo, Vampirabile, Rusalke, Toxic Psalms, From time immemorial, Scivias, When the mountain changed its clothing, CS Light, Adiemus, and many others have been received with high praise.

*... breathtaking and equally relevant multimedia suite... a sonically thrilling, disquieting premiere for Karmina Silec's Toxic Psalms...
(New York Music Daily)*

*... striking new work by the rabidly talented Carmina Slovenica... the ensemble and its director, Karmina Silec, have created haunting images...
(The New York Times)*

*... provocative pastiche... the true highlight is the singing. Indeed, Šilec has helped to shape these young women into crack musicians...
(Opera World)*

*... Theatrical singing at top level ... beautiful voices and an extraordinary theatrical instinct ...
(Throuw)*

*... Carmina Slovenica are in your face, created by women, driven by women, not afraid to show their teeth or shout down injustice...pure talent and virtuosity is astounding.... the languages, time periods, and cultures blurred into visceral emotion and reaction ...
(San Francisco Classical Voice)*

... there is "perfect motion", which goes far beyond a choreographed chorus performance ...
(Opera Magazin)

...Toxic Psalms adds a savage yet polished theatricality to the mix as well as an ambiguity all too rare in American performance. ...all add up to an evening that's bracing yet, perversely enough, enchanting...
(The New York Times)

... Carmina Slovenica, who've gained a world-wide reputation for their powers of story-telling through choral song. ... joyous moments of collective energy or anarchy that these astonishing performers shone, and the piece itself really came alive.
(The Telegraph)

... Carmina Slovenica (under conductor Karmina Šilec) is a phenomenon in itself ... with its mesmerizing combination of steely discipline with exuberant physicality... the sound is often the hard-edged chesty, but the young singers can shift to clean, honey-toned romanticism or glassy polytonality in the blink of an eye ...
(Financial Times)

... they radiate fantastic energy, composure and professionalism on stage ... In all positions fully master all techniques at all times with astonishing perfection ... They can do anything ... with that marvelous energy, composure and professionalism ...
(Le Monde)