



Aleksandra Kurzak releases *Desire*

New album sees polish soprano venturing into new repertoire

Frederic Chaslin *conductor*

Morphing Chamber Orchestra Vienna

Artistic Director **Tomasz Wabnic**

Sony Classical is proud to announce the new album from Polish soprano Aleksandra Kurzak: *Desire* features a selection of opera arias that moves away from the bel canto and coloratura repertoire, which she is known the best for, towards roles by the likes of Tchaikovsky, Puccini and Verdi.

"This is a dream come true," says Kurzak of her new album. "It's the new aspect of my career — maybe even my new face as a singer." She has already sung a third of the album on stage, including Nedda (*Pagliacci*), Liù (*Turandot*) and Micaëla (*Carmen*). Another third of the music comes from roles, which she is going to make her debut in the coming years with such as Tosca and Adriana Lecouvreur.

The remainder of the album features more operas that indicate the direction, which her career is heading in, by covering music from the Verdi roles of Leonora (*Il trovatore*), Elvira (*Ernani*) and Elena (*I vespri siciliani*), and Tchaikovsky's Tatyana (*Eugene Onegin*). "Of all my dreams presented here," she says, "singing Tatyana one day is the biggest."

Two more Slavic arias emphasise the significance of this collection to the Polish singer: the 'Song to the Moon' from Dvořák's *Rusalka*, and an aria from *Halka*, an opera by the great Polish composer Stanisław Moniuszko, whose 200th anniversary was celebrated in 2019.

Kurzak is joined on *Desire* by the Morphing Chamber Orchestra Vienna (artistic director Tomasz Wabnic), conducted by Frédéric Chaslin. The album follows *Puccini in Love*, the album of duets with her husband Roberto Alagna that marked her debut with Sony Classical ("Kurzak is this album's true revelation... Her voice is versatile and polychromatic" – *OperaWire*).

From 2020 the Morphing Chamber Orchestra changed its name to Vienna Morphing Orchestra.

VIENNA MORPHING ORCHESTRA

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR TOMASZ WABNIC