

■ Outstanding December concerts

The concert highlight in Bratislava this December should be the first Christmas concert of the famous Slovak tenor Miroslav Dvorský, but there will actually be two highlights: the second will be one of the world's best countertenors Max Emanuel Cenčić, both in The Slovak Philharmonic.

The name Dvorský became famous in Slovakia, as well as on the worldwide opera scene, through one of the world best operatic tenors in history, Peter Dvorský, who in his time sang on the same level as Luciano Pavarotti, Plácido Domingo and



Max Emanuel Cenčić
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José Carreras. However, the name Dvorský didn't disappear from the casts of the great opera houses. His younger brother Miroslav very successfully followed in his footsteps.

Since his professional opera debut in 1983 in the Slovak National Theatre, he has appeared in leading roles on the stages of most of the world's great opera houses, and is still welcomed as a guest singer as Alfred or Gabriel von Eisenstein in Johann Strauss II's *Die Fledermaus*, Cavaradossi in Giacomo Puccini's *Tosca*, Jeník in Bedřich Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*, Laca Klemeň in Leoš Janáček's *Jenůfa*, Albert Gregor in Leoš Janáček's *The Makropulos Affair*, the Prince in Antonín Dvořák's *Rusalka* and many others. He enriched his repertoire recently by filling the title roles in Wagner's *Lohengrin*, Herman in P. I. Tchaikovsky's *The Queen of Spades* and Radames in Giuseppe Verdi's *Aida*. He will sing some arias from his great roles in the first part of the Christmas concert.

The second part will be dedicated purely to Christmas. Alongside traditional Slovak and international carols, the public will also hear the well-known favorite Christmas songs such as J. F. Wade's *Adeste Fideles*, Adolphe Adam's *O Holy Night*, Cesar Frank's *Paris Angelique* and, for sure, F. X. Gruber's *Stille Nacht*.

Miroslav Dvorský will be supported by the young Slovak

soprano Andrea Vizvári, selected by music critics as the recipient of the award The Revelation of the Year 2010, who has already started her successful international career, and The Lúčnica Chorus, an outstanding amateur chorus, which has been awarded the most prestigious prizes at many international singing competitions. The Christmas concert of Miroslav Dvorský will take place on December 3, 2014, in The Slovak Philharmonic in Bratislava.

The concert of the countertenor Max Emanuel Cenčić should have been one of the highlights of the Bratislava Music Festival, but his illness resulted in the cancellation of this concert. The new date of the concert is December 6, 2014.

Max Emanuel Cenčić has been recognized as one of the world's supreme countertenors. He first became known internationally as a member of the Vienna Boys' Choir, before launching his solo career in 1992 as a soprano, and from 2001 as a countertenor. He now appears in productions at major opera houses worldwide.

An early milestone in Max Emanuel Cenčić's career was his interpretation of Nerone in Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea* in Basel, which prompted the leading German magazine *Opernwelt* to name him Best New Singer of the Year 2003.

Hugely important in Cenčić's career was the production,

tour, and recording of a newly-rediscovered opera, Leonardo Vinci's *Artaserse*. This whole project was his idea: originally premiered in Rome in 1730, at a time when women there were forbidden from performing on the public stage, this re-creation also featured an all-male cast, including five counter-tenors.

Max Emanuel Cenčić's iconic status amongst present-day countertenors was encapsulated by the sensation he created in the title role of Vivaldi's opera *Farnace*. One review for all: "Cenčić ... the undisputed singing god of the evening".



Ján Korecký,
Promoter,
Kapos agency

UPCOMING CONCERT

3.12.2014

Miroslav Dvorský
(Christmas concert)

6.12. 2014

Max Emanuel Cenčić

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