Akie Amou, Soprano

Akie Amou´s marvelous lyrical coluratura soprano voice brought her popular acclaim both in her home country of Japan and abroad.  
  
A graduate from the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music Opera Institute, she completed her studies at the Nikikai Opera Studio program and received training from Toshiko Toda and Francis Simar. In 1993, after earning the Japanese Government Oversea Study Program for Artists sponsored by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, she studied at the University of Stuttgart. Her studies abroad continued in Berlin for two more years, upon winning the 1995 Gotoh Memorial Foundation´s Cultural Award,given to the most exciting opera debutantes. While there, she was honored with the highest award at the 3rd Queen Sonja International Music Competition, for which she gained public attention and has since made Stuttgart, Germany her musical base. She is also the winner of the 1999 Arion Prize and 2003 Nippon Steel Music Award´s Promising New Artist Prize.  
  
Amou has appeared in opera houses and music festivals of various parts of Europe, such as Grand Théâtre de Genève, Semperoper Dresden, Komische Oper Berlin.  
  
She is a board member of Tokyo Opera NEXT. Actively engaged in promoting opera through supporting young singers and producing opera performances with commentary.