Mari Midorikawa, Soprano

Mari Midorikawa made her much-awaited international debut in June 2000 in the title role of Tosca at the Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe.  
   
A graduate with Bachelor´s and Master´s Degrees from the prestigious Toho Gakuen, she studied with Takeo Itoh and Toshiko Goto. Ms Midorikawa received special honors at the Concours de Chant Franco-Japonais, and later went on to study in Milan, Italy. She was also a prizewinner in the 1991 International Verdi Voice Competition.  
   
In 1992, Ms. Midorikawa debuted to much acclaim in the Nikikai Opera´s Fortieth Anniversary Celebration performance under the direction of Kazushi Ono. This was the result of her last-minute substitute for the role of Lia in Debussy´s L´enfant Prodigue with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra. Since then, she has continued to collaborate with Maestro Ono in numerous productions including Mozart´s The Magic Flute (Pamina), the title role in the Japan premier of Shostakovich´s Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk in the original language, and Hindemith´s Sancta Susanna. Additional highlights in her career include her highly appraised performance of Brünnhilde in the Nikikai Opera´s production of Wagner´s Walküre, and her performance of Margarete (Honegger, Jeanne d´arc au bûcher) with the NHK Symphony Orchestra/Dutoit.  
   
Ms. Midorikawa´s ability to portray diverse characters in various musical styles allows her to perform a repertoire ranging from classical to contemporary. Her orchestral performances include Händel Messiah, Beethoven Symphony No. 9, Mahler Symphonies No. 2, No. 4 and No. 8, R. Strauss Four Last Songs, Orff Carmina Burana, and Schoenberg Erwartung.  
   
Mari Midorikawa has also been heard and seen on NHK (New Year Opera Concert, FM Recital, Classic Salon, Meikyoku Album) and TV Asahi．Her popularity has even lead her to appear in a television commercial appearance for IDC international telephone company