



## 2018 Biography [Intermediate version]

459 words / 3,114 characters (with spaces)

Recipient of the City of Halle's 2017 Händel-Preis, mezzo-soprano **Vivica Genaux** hails from Fairbanks, Alaska. In the course of her two-decade career, her unforgettable voice has been heard in many of the world's most important venues, including Beijing's National Center for the Performing Arts, Chicago Symphony Center, London's Barbican Centre, the Metropolitan Opera, Prague's Rudolfinum, Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, and Wiener Staatsoper.

During 2017, Vivica achieved several milestones in her career. In addition to her rôle débuts as Lepido and Arsamene in Händel's *Lucio Cornelio Silla* (Wiener Konzerthaus) and *Serse* (Opéra Royal de Versailles) and Eternità and Diana in Cavalli's *La Calisto* (Opéra national du Rhin) and returning to the rôle of Malcolm in Rossini's *La donna del lago* (Salzburger Pfingstfestspiele), Vivica founded V/vox Academy and supervised the Academy's inaugural course.

Concert outings in 2017 took Vivica to destinations including Bucharest, Chicago, Istanbul, Vivica joined Concerto Köln for *Une Voix Virtuose pour Vivaldi*, featuring music by Castrucci, Galuppi, and Vivaldi, in Sisteron, France. Then, she reunited with frequent collaborators Fabio Biondi and Europa Galante for an all-Vivaldi concert at Bucharest's George Enescu International Festival. Biondi also conducted Vivica and Sonia Prina in a performance of Vivaldi's *La Gloria e Imeneo* in Paris's Théâtre des Champs-Élysées. After her first performance of the rôle of Arsamene in Händel's *Serse* at Opéra de Versailles, she and Les Musiciens du Louvre take an exciting programme of works by Händel, Hasse, and Vivaldi to Barcelona and Grenoble.

Engagements in 2018 include *Deux Génies en Italie*, a presentation of music by Händel and Alessandro Scarlatti, at Paris's Salle Gaveau and additional performances of Vivica's Pauline Viardot-themed multimedia show, *Vivica & Viardot*, in Spain. Additional concert dates take her throughout Europe and Asia and to the USA for performances in metro Chicago and Miami. Returning to Händel's operas, she interprets the title rôle in *Rodrigo* and Arsamene in *Serse* in concert performances at Beaune's Festival International d'Opéra Baroque and Paris's Théâtre des Champs-Élysées. She will travel to Australia in December 2018 for her début in the rôle of Mandane in Hasse's *Artaserse* and a concert with Pinchgut Opera.

Encompassing music from four centuries, Vivica's operatic repertory extends to sixty-five rôles, including forty-two *travesti* parts. Particularly celebrated for her interpretations of Baroque and *bel canto* music, she has garnered praise from critics and audiences for her incredible *bravura* technique and the dramatic intensity of her portrayals. She has been honored with numerous awards, and her career is documented in an array of critically-acclaimed CD and DVD/Blu-ray recordings. Her advocacy of the music of Hasse has contributed indelibly to the revival of interest in this unjustly-neglected composer, and her enthusiasm for sharing her experience and expertise with young singers is manifested in masterclasses and teaching engagements throughout the world.

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