

# TIMELESS ROSES OF MALMAISON

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## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**ALI HABASHI, producer and director**, is a faculty member at the University of Miami School of Communication, Department of Cinema and Interactive Media, and an award winning documentary filmmaker who has covered stories in more than 50 countries. His work has been featured in CBS4, NBC6, *The Miami Herald*, and *USA Today* and aired on international cable and public television channels, such as Discovery (United States and India), Canal+ (France), CZTV (Czech Republic), LAPT (Latin America), and CNN Türk. With an interest to better understand pressing global challenges, his work in recent years has focused on communicating science on a range of topics, such as ethnic disparities in health care, access to clean drinking water and sanitation, ocean health index, aging populations and potential implications of increasing the human health-span on economies, resources, and generational succession.

His global documentary film titled *The Silver Mirror* was premiered at the headquarters of the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, and subsequently in Miami and New York. Narrated and hosted by two-time Emmy Award®-winning and Golden Globe®-nominated actress Blythe Danner, with an original film score performed by the Brno Philharmonic Orchestra, this feature-length global documentary film investigates the topic of aging in the 21st century. Shot over three years in 12 countries, *The Silver Mirror* is a search for a universal voice that fearlessly and intimately conveys humanity's ancient, collective, and fundamental struggle with the fragility of the human condition imposed by the inevitability of aging, while also pondering that for the first time in history, impending scientific surges in our health-span will drastically change how we live our lives.

Habashi's work as the co-director and editor of *One Water*, a global documentary film about our changing relationship to potable water, premiered at the 2008 Miami International Film Festival to critical acclaim and won numerous international awards, including Best Environmental Feature Award at the Artivist Film Festival in Los Angeles, the Golder Associates Award for Best Film on Sustainable Development at Cineambiente in Turin, Italy, as well as Best Documentary at the Foyle International Film Festival in Derry, Ireland. A television version of this film, narrated by Martin Sheen, had its premiere on the Discovery Network's Planet Green in 2010 and found its way to international cable and public television channels in France, India, South Korea, Taiwan, Poland, and Turkey.

For various productions during the last decade, he has interviewed a wide range of distinguished personalities, such as Dr. Maya Angelou; Dr. Ke Yang, chancellor and executive vice president of Peking University; Dr. John Beard, director of the Department of Ageing and Life Course, World Health Organization; Dr. Elizabeth H. Blackburn, 2009 Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine; His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso; and Mikhail Gorbachev, former president of the Soviet Union and founder of Green Cross International.

Habashi has been invited as the guest presenter/speaker in several conferences and international events, including *International Day of Older Persons* at the headquarters of the World Health Organization (Geneva, 2013); *United States of Aging Town Hall Meeting*, streamed live by *USA Today* (Miami, 2012); Patagonia Agua (Viedma, 2011); "The Business of Health Care" at the *Global Business Forum* (Miami, 2011); UNESCO Headquarters (Paris, 2009); World Bank Headquarters (Washington D.C., 2009); *Fifth World Water Forum* (Istanbul, 2009); *Baka Forum* (Basel, 2009); *Sea Secrets Lecture Series* (Florida, 2008); TECDO (Santo Domingo, 2008); and INFOBAE (Buenos Aires, 2008).

**MARIA ALEIDA, soprano**, is a Cuban born coloratura soprano who began her musical studies at the Vicente Emilio Sojo Conservatory in Venezuela. Eventually she moved to the United States, where she was accepted to the prestigious Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia. As a resident artist, she sang Nanetta in Verdi's *Falstaff*; Musetta in *La Bohème*, Fiakermilli in *Arabella*, and Olympia in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*. She made her professional debut at the Rossini Opera Festival as Sofia in *Il Signor Bruschino*.

Recent performances include Contessa di Folleville in *Il viaggio a Reims* at the Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro, Italy; Queen of the Night in *Die Zauberflöte* for Opera Carolina and Teatro Reggido di Torino, Italy; and most recently, Zerbinetta in *Ariadne auf Naxos* at the Astoria Music Festival in Astoria, Oregon. She also covered the role of Elvira in *I Puritani* at Opera National de Paris.

For the past few years, Aleida has toured the world singing with Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli. Together they performed in many different venues, including Madison Square Garden and most recently, at the Opera di Roma. Aleida has won prizes in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions; the Monserrat Caballe International Vocal Competition in Zaragoza, Spain; the Licia Albanese Puccini Foundation; the Mario Lanza Competition in Philadelphia; and the Placido Domingo Operalia Vocal Competition, which was held in Beijing.

**FRANK COOPER, narrator**, has a long track record as a speaker in the classroom and lecture hall, on radio and television, and at public events about music. He taught at Butler University, the New World School of the Arts, and the University of Miami. For 35 years, he introduced the concerts of Indiana's Festival Music Society, a task he similarly performed for 17 years with the Coral Gables Mainly Mozart Festival. He has presented pre-concert and in-concert lectures for Judy Drucker's *Great Artist Series*, the Cleveland Orchestra in Miami, the Miami International Piano Festival and other programs. He has spoken over the CBC (Canada), BBC (England), Radio Nederlands (Holland), and has been the host for five years of *Symphony Backstage*, the official television show of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. Cooper is known locally for his 18 seasons of twice-annual public lectures at the University of Miami, where he is now research professor emeritus for the Department of Musicology.

**MARINA RADIUSHINA, pianist, D.M.A.**, is the artistic director of the Miami Chamber Music Society and the Mainly Mozart Festival. She is a winner of numerous prestigious piano competitions, including Horowitz and Rubinstein piano competitions.

Hailed as a "virtuoso whose playing is distinguished by rare depth of interpretation and understanding of style," Radiushina made her debut with the Mariinsky Theatre Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Maestro Valery Gergiev in February 2012, appearing at the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory, Theatre Des Champs-Elysee in Paris, the National Center for the Performing Arts in Beijing, and Mariinsky Theatre in Saint-Petersburg.

Recent highlights have included performances at the Salzburg and Rotterdam Festivals with Valery Gergiev; at Carnegie Hall with Sir Simon Rattle, David Robertson, and Pablo Heras-Casado; appearances with the Munich and Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestras; a recording project with the Brno Philharmonic; and chamber music performances with the members of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as the Carnegie Hall Ensemble at the Suntory Hall in Japan.

Dr. Radiushina is a member of Carnegie Hall's resident chamber group, Decoda. She was a recipient of a fellowship from The Juilliard School of Music and holds degrees from the Odessa Conservatory (Ukraine), the University of Miami, and the Cleveland Institute of Music.



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