

MARIANA MARTÍNEZ 1744-1812  
*complete stage works*



REAL COMPANYIA ÒPERA DE CAMBRA  
REAL COMPAÑÍA ÓPERA DE CÁMARA  
ROYAL CHAMBER OPERA COMPANY

*Juan Bautista Otero*

COMPOSER, SINGER AND VIRTUOUS HARPSICHORDIST, MARIANA MARTINEZ (1744-1812) BELONGED TO ONE OF THE MANY SPANISH FAMILIES WHO SUPPORTED THE ARCHDUKE CHARLES OF HABSBURG IN THE SPANISH WAR OF SUCCESSION AT THE BEGINNING OF THE XVIII CENTURY. AFTER RESIDING IN NAPLES, THE MARTÍNEZ FAMILY MOVED TO VIENNA FOR THE CORONATION OF THE ARCHDUKE OF AUSTRIA AS EMPEROR . THANKS TO THE POET PIETRO METASTASIO, MOST FAMOUS AND PROLIFIC XVIIIth CENTURY LIBRETTIST, AND GUEST OF THE MARTINEZ FAMILY IN VIENNA, MARIANA RECEIVED AN EXCEPTIONAL MUSICAL EDUCATION, HAVING AS TEACHERS HAYDN, PORPORA AND HASSE.

BESIDES COMPOSING AND SINGING, SHE CONTRIBUTED TO CORROBORATE VIENNA AS A CENTRE OF MUSICAL LIFE IN EUROPE AT THE END OF THE XVIII CENTURY. OFFICIAL HEIRESS OF THE WORKS BY METASTASIO, SHE ALSO CREATED A SINGING SCHOOL, MUSICAL SOIRÉES IN WHICH MUSICIANS LIKE MOZART, MARTIN Y SOLER OR BEETHOVEN PARTICIPATED, WITH WHOM SHE PERFORMED NUMEROUS WORKS.

AMONG THE UNUSUAL PIECES SHE COMPOSED, HER CANTATAS AND ORATORIOS EXCEL IN HER PERIOD OF MATURITY. FROM THIS OUTPUT, THE BIBLIOTECA MARIANA MARTÍNEZ PRESENTS A BEAUTIFUL SELECTION TO CREATE A CHARMING PORTRAIT OF THIS WOMAN COMPOSER. THE SCOPE OF THIS COLLECTION DEVOTED TO THIS REFINED COMPOSER, INCLUDES HER COMPLETE STAGE CANTATAS AND HER TWO ORATORIOS, CREATED ALSO ORIGINALLY FOR THE STAGE 'ISACCO, FIGURA DEL REDENTORE' AND 'SANTA ELENA AL CALVARIO', WHICH WILL BE APPEARING IN OUR 2014 CATALOGUE.