

ANNA NETREBKO

http://www.famouspeoplelessons.com/a/anna_netrebko.html

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THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Anna Netrebko is one of opera's leading stars. She is a stunning soprano who sweeps audiences off their feet with her beauty and incredible voice. The magazine 'Musical America' said she is "a genuine superstar for the 21st century" and was named 'Musician of the Year' for 2008. Netrebko also won the prestigious People's Artist of Russia prize in 2008.

Netrebko was born in Russia in 1971. She studied at the St. Petersburg Conservatory, while working there as a floor cleaner and doing odd jobs. She auditioned for the Kirov Opera and impressed conductor Valery Gergiev. He became her vocal mentor and guided her to her operatic stage debut in 1994. In 1993, she won the Glinka Vocal Competition in Moscow.

In 1995, Netrebko graduated from St. Petersburg Conservatory and made her sensational US debut at the San Francisco Opera. She built up a reputation for her creative and dynamic performances in Russian operatic roles. In 2002 Netrebko made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera in New York and signed a recording contract with Deutsche Grammophon. She had become an opera superstar.

Netrebko has sung at the great opera houses all around the world and has expanded her repertoire to include most of the opera classics. She has picked up dozens of awards, including the Classical BRIT Award as Singer of the Year in 2004. Netrebko is also frequently seen on the cover of fashion magazines like 'Vogue'. In 2006, she became an Austrian citizen.

245 words

Flesch Kinkaid 10.8

SYNONYM MATCH: Match the words from the article on the left with their synonyms on the right. Are your answers the same as other students'?

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. leading | a. tried out |
| 2. incredible | b. overawed |
| 3. genuine | c. top |
| 4. auditioned | d. real |
| 5. impressed | e. trainer |
| 6. mentor | f. amazing |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 7. sensational | g. collected |
| 8. reputation | h. range |
| 9. dynamic | i. regularly |
| 10. repertoire | j. stunning |
| 11. picked up | k. energetic |
| 12. frequently | l. name |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. sweeps audiences | a. St. Petersburg Conservatory |
| 2. won the prestigious | b. up dozens of awards |
| 3. She studied at the | c. up a reputation |
| 4. doing odd | d. off their feet |
| 5. He became her vocal | e. fashion magazines |
| 6. She built | f. mentor |
| 7. signed a | g. People's Artist of Russia prize |
| 8. expanded her | h. jobs |
| 9. She has picked | i. recording contract |
| 10. frequently seen on the cover of | j. repertoire |

LISTENING GAP FILL:

Anna Netrebko is _____ leading stars. She is a stunning soprano who sweeps audiences _____ with her beauty and incredible voice. The magazine 'Musical America' said she is "a _____ for the 21st century" and was named 'Musician of the Year' for 2008. Netrebko _____ prestigious People's Artist of Russia prize in 2008.

Netrebko was born in Russia in 1971. She studied at the St. Petersburg Conservatory, while working there as a floor cleaner and _____. She _____ the Kirov Opera and impressed conductor Valery Gergiev. He became her _____ and guided her to her operatic _____ 1994. In 1993, she won the Glinka Vocal Competition in Moscow.

In 1995, Netrebko graduated from St. Petersburg Conservatory and made her sensational US debut at the San Francisco Opera. _____ reputation _____ and dynamic performances in Russian operatic roles. In 2002 Netrebko made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera in New York _____ recording contract with Deutsche Grammophon. She had become _____.

Netrebko _____ great opera houses all around the world and has expanded _____ to include most of the opera classics. She has _____ of awards, including the Classical BRIT Award as Singer of the Year in 2004. Netrebko _____ seen on the cover of fashion magazines like 'Vogue'. In 2006, she became an Austrian citizen.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of italics.

Anna Netrebko is one of opera's / opera leading stars. She is a stunning soprano who brushes / sweeps audiences off their feet with her beauty and incredible voice. The magazine 'Musical America' said she is "a genuinely / genuine superstar for the 21st century" and was named 'Musician of the Year' for 2008. Netrebko also won the prestigious / prestige People's Artist of Russia prize in 2008.

Netrebko was born in Russia in 1971. She studied / studying at the St. Petersburg Conservatory, while working there as a floor cleaner and doing odd / even jobs. She auditioned for the Kirov Opera and impressed conductor Valery Gergiev. He became her vocalist / vocal mentor and guidance / guided her to her operatic stage debut in 1994. In 1993, she won the Glinka Vocal Competition in Moscow.

In 1995, Netrebko graduated from St. Petersburg Conservatory and made / did her sensational US debut at the San Francisco Opera. She built in / up a reputation for her creative and dynamic performances in Russian operatic rolls/ roles. In 2002 Netrebko made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera in New York and signed a recording contract / contract with Deutsche Grammophon. She had become an opera superstar.

Netrebko has sang / sung at the great opera houses all around the world and has inflated / expanded her repertoire to include most of the opera classics. She has / was picked up dozens of awards, including the Classical BRIT Award as Singer of the Year in 2004. Netrebko is also frequently / frequented seen on the cover of fashion magazines like 'Vogue'. In 2006, she became an Austrian citizen.

SPELLING:

These jumbled words are from the text. Spell them correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. one of opera's Indiega stars
2. sspewe audiences off their feet
3. "a ngienue superstar for the 21st century"
4. People's Artist of Russia przie

Paragraph 2

5. She utesdid at the St. Petersburg Conservatory
6. working there as a floor ealcren
7. She uoaietiddn for the Kirov Opera
8. He became her vocal mrneot

Paragraph 3

9. made her sensational US etbud
10. She liubt up a reputation
11. creative and nciaymd performances
12. siedng a recording contract

Paragraph 4

13. the opera lscacsis
14. She has picked up dnsezo of awards
15. Netrebko is also qfulrneety seen on the cover of fashion magazines
16. she became an Austrian einzcti

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () contract with Deutsche Grammophon. She had become an opera superstar.
- () and incredible voice. The magazine 'Musical America' said she is "a genuine superstar for the 21st century" and was named
- () 'Musician of the Year' for 2008. Netrebko also won the prestigious People's Artist of Russia prize in 2008.
- () cleaner and doing odd jobs. She auditioned for the Kirov Opera and impressed
- () conductor Valery Gergiev. He became her vocal mentor and guided her to her operatic stage
- () San Francisco Opera. She built up a reputation for her creative and dynamic performances in Russian operatic
- () debut in 1994. In 1993, she won the Glinka Vocal Competition in Moscow.
- () Netrebko was born in Russia in 1971. She studied at the St. Petersburg Conservatory, while working there as a floor
- () Netrebko has sung at the great opera houses all around the world and has expanded her repertoire to include
- () Singer of the Year in 2004. Netrebko is also frequently seen on the cover of
- () most of the opera classics. She has picked up dozens of awards, including the Classical BRIT Award as
- () fashion magazines like 'Vogue'. In 2006, she became an Austrian citizen.
- () In 1995, Netrebko graduated from St. Petersburg Conservatory and made her sensational US debut at the
- () roles. In 2002 Netrebko made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera in New York and signed a recording
- (**1**) Anna Netrebko is one of opera's leading stars. She is a stunning soprano who sweeps audiences off their feet with her beauty

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With your partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. of leading Netrebko one opera's stars is

2. sweeps beauty her with feet their off audiences

3. the century genuine for 21st a superstar

4. cleaner odd there floor doing working a and jobs as

5. became mentor her He vocal

6. Opera sensational at Francisco her debut San made US the

7. had She superstar opera an become

8. world the around all houses opera great the

9. up of She picked dozens awards has

10. an became she , 2006 In citizen Austrian

DISCUSSION (Write your questions):

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What do you know about Anna Netrebko?
2. Would you like to meet Anna Netrebko?
3. What would you like to know about Anna Netrebko and why?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

DISCUSSION (Write your questions):

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. What did you learn from this text about Anna Netrebko?
2. What questions would you like to ask Anna Netrebko?
3. What would her answers be to those questions?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

THE ANNA NETREBKO SURVEY:

Write five questions about Anna Netrebko in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITING:

Write about Anna Netrebko for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other’s work.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about Anna Netrebko. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. ANNA NETREBKO POSTER: Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Anna Netrebko. Show your poster to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all find out similar things?

4. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Anna Netrebko. Include an imaginary interview with her. Write about what she does every day and what she thinks about.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to Anna Netrebko. Ask her three questions about her life. Give her three suggestions on what she should do in her future. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your "Anna Netrebko expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

ANSWERS

SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. leading | a. top |
| 2. incredible | b. overawed |
| 3. genuine | c. real |
| 4. auditioned | d. tried out |
| 5. impressed | e. excited |
| 6. mentor | f. trainer |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 7. sensational | g. stunning |
| 8. reputation | h. name |
| 9. dynamic | i. energetic |
| 10. repertoire | j. range |
| 11. picked up | k. collected |
| 12. frequently | l. regularly |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. sweeps audiences | a. off their feet |
| 2. won the prestigious | b. People's Artist of Russia prize |
| 3. She studied at the | c. St. Petersburg Conservatory |
| 4. doing odd | d. jobs |
| 5. He became her vocal | e. mentor |
| 6. She built | f. up a reputation |
| 7. signed a | g. recording contract |
| 8. expanded her | h. repertoire |
| 9. She has picked | i. up dozens of awards |
| 10. frequently seen on the cover of | j. fashion magazines |

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Look at the text on page 2.