

MOONLIGHT SHIMMER

CAROLINA GHIGLIAZZA
Soprano

Words: Mosi Dorbayani; Composer: Beethoven; Piano/Arr: Marta Bellido


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MY COLLABORATION WITH BEETHOVEN!

By: Mosi Dorbayani

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It was in 2011, when WAALM Productions introduced 'Leonardo Tajabadi' a Baritone opera singer, based in Paris to me and informed me that he wants to have a conversation with me about a new progressive style in opera. He said that during his tour in Florence, he was introduced to 'Rock Opera' and he spoke passionately about it. He asked if I would be interested to support and collaborate. I kept that in mind, while WAALM was collaborating with him on other musical projects.

A couple of months later, one night during my visit to Budapest in late summer, I decided to walk along the Danube. I was listening to a classical radio, when 'Moonlight Sonata' by Beethoven came on. Coincidentally, I could see the reflection of the moon on the river too and suddenly the words were striking my head. There and then I recorded and wrote 'Moonlight Shimmer' on Beethoven's sonata on my Dictaphone, and next day had it arranged in Rock style by Lai from Vietnam for Leonard to record. An experimental project for me to hear the fusion of Rock with a Baritone voice.



Leonardo Tajabadi, Baritone Tenor, France

Leonardo recorded the first version of 'Moonlight Shimmer' in Rock-Opera in Paris and WAALM officially published it. It became somewhat popular and got broadcast by a few Radios in Europe, and even by VOA TV in Washington DC, USA. Eventually it got covered by other singers in various styles in other continents as well – including a beautiful rendition by Soprano Carolina

Ghigliazza from Argentina, accompanied by a masterful piano by Maestra Marta Bellido. Her rendition became a sensation, broadcast across the glob, and even entered her album: '[QUE SEA CANCIÓN](#)', which was published in 2014.



Carolina Ghigliazza, Soprano and Marta Bellido on Piano, Argentina

As a songwriter, 'Moonlight Shimmer' became my first official release in 2011 – and to best of my knowledge one of the only two Beethoven's pieces ever recorded with words in the English language (the other one is on Beethoven's Last Movement of Symphony 9, written by N. Graham, performed by late [Andy Williams](#)).

The interesting part of the story is that later I learned Beethoven composed his sonata in summer of 1801 on an estate belonging to the Count Anton II of Brunswick family near Budapest. It is absolutely amazing how the music and the words got composed 211 years apart, but in the same season and in the same country!

I still feel honored to be the first, who wrote words on Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata. And I am happy that it is translated into other languages and performed by other notable sopranos and tenors around the world.

You can watch Carolina's Rendition on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QCBDIo5Fegw>

Stream it from Spotify:

<https://open.spotify.com/track/6HDCGFtM93FnwyEP7t7QfA?si=0f6b3357adb946ab>