

Julia Kirchner - soprano

Vita

Julia Kirchner was born in Thuringia, Germany. She studied classical and period singing, vocal pedagogy, Lied-interpretation as well as romance languages in Leipzig, London, Rome and Weimar, where she received tuitions from Jeanette Favaro-Reuter, Marek Rzepka, Karl-Peter Kammerlander, Penelope MacKay und Sara Mingardo. Further input she gained through Susanne Scholz, Sigiswald Kuijken, Peter van Heyghen, Emma Kirkby and Christoph Prégardien. Julia is particularly interested in historically informed baroque opera, and gained important insights into the art of gesture through Sigrid T'Hooft. Currently, she is working with Ulrich Messthaler in Basel.

An experienced concert singer and recitalist, Julia's broad repertoire ranges from renaissance to 20th century music. Engagements lead the soloist throughout Europe and to festivals including Bachfest Leipzig, Händelfestspiele Halle, Thüringer Bachwochen (Germany), La Chaise-Dieu and Festival d'Ambronay (France), Festival Anima Mundi Pisa and Grandezze e Meraviglie Modena (Italy), Festival AMUZ (Belgium) as well as Goldbergfestival Gdansk (Poland). She has appeared with orchestras such as the *Gewandhausorchester Leipzig* and the *Staatskapelle Dresden*, *Le Concert Lorrain*, *La Banda*, *Capella Cracoviensis* and *Telemannisches Collegium Michaelstein*. Furthermore, she regularly performs with the ensembles *Camerata Bachiensis* and *Les Timbres*. The soprano particularly cares about singing in soloist vocal ensembles. Especially formative in this field has been the work with Sigiswald Kuijken and Frieder Bernius, *Cantus Cölln* under Konrad Junghänel, *Weser-Renaissance Bremen* under Manfred Cordes, *Balthasar-Neumann-Chor & Ensemble* under Pablo Heras-Casado as well as *Johann Rosenmüller Ensemble* under Arno Paduch.

Julia's special interest focuses on the rich repertoire of early music, and she became particularly fascinated by the world of baroque gesture. It is her strong desire to give new life in performance to this art as well as to discover forgotten musical treasures and to share this enthusiasm with her audiences. Therefore she works – together with her baroque ensemble *scenitas* and other groups – on the realization of own projects.

The soprano also loves to perform programmes with lute or theorbo that are mostly dedicated to the English and Italian repertoire of the 17th century.

Together with pianist Nao Aiba as LiedduoWeimar she regularly appears in recitals. The duo concentrates on the German classical and romantic Lieder repertoire but also performs French, Anglo-American and Scandinavian songs. They are particularly keen to promote works by less well-known composers.

Julia has been a prize-winner and finalist of several international competitions. Radio and TV recordings as well as CD productions give evidence of her artistic work.

Further information on: www.juliakirchner.com

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Short version

Soprano Julia Kirchner studied classical and period singing, vocal pedagogy, Lied-interpretation, and romance languages with Jeanette Favaro-Reuter, Marek Rzepka, Karl-Peter Kammerlander, Penelope MacKay und Sara Mingardo in Leipzig, Weimar, London and Rome. Early in her studies she became fascinated by the world of early music, and her strongest inspirations have included Susanne Scholz, Sigiswald Kuijken, Emma Kirkby, Sigrid T'Hooft and Peter Van Heyghen. Currently, she is working with Ulrich Messthaler in Basel.

As a soloist she has been invited to perform throughout Europe in prestigious festivals, such as *Bachfest Leipzig*, *Händelfestspiele Halle* (Germany), *Styriarte Graz* (Austria), *La Chaise-Dieux* and *Ambronay* (France). She has worked with ensembles such as *Cantus Cölln*, *Weser-Renaissance Bremen*, *Balthasar-Neumann-Chor & Ensemble*, *Le Concert Lorrain*, *Camerata Bachiensis*, *Les Timbres* and conductors such as Sigiswald Kuijken, Konrad Junghänel, Pablo Heras-Casado, Frieder Bernius and Manfred Cordes.

Julia has been a prize-winner and finalist of several international competitions. Radio and TV recordings as well as CD productions give evidence of her artistic work.

The soprano particularly loves the process of discovering forgotten musical treasures and giving them new life in performance, all the while sharing her enthusiasm for this music with her audiences. Therefore she increasingly works – together with her ensembles *scenitas* and *LiedduoWeimar* as well as further groups – on the realization of own projects.

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