

Julia Kirchner - soprano

Vita

Julia Kirchner, soprano, specialises in the performance of early music, German Lieder and French Mélodies and is particularly fascinated by the art of baroque gesture. Through her performances, she aims to revive this art and to expose forgotten musical treasures to new audiences. She has curated several projects with her baroque ensembles, *scenitas* and *tesori della musica*, as well as in collaboration with other groups.

Julia was born in Thuringia, Germany, and currently lives in Basel, Switzerland. She studied classical singing, early music and historical performance, vocal pedagogy, Lied-interpretation as well as romance languages in Leipzig, Basel, London, Rome and Weimar. Amongst her teachers are Jeanette Favaro-Reuter, Ulrich Messthaler, Karl-Peter Kammerlander, Penelope MacKay and Sara Mingardo. Furthermore, working with Margreet Honig, Susanne Scholz, Sigiswald Kuijken and Sigrid T'Hooft was very inspiring for her singing career.

An experienced concert singer and recitalist, Julia's broad repertoire ranges from renaissance to 21st-century music. She performs regularly as a soloist throughout Europe and has sung at numerous major international festivals including Händel-Festspiele Halle, Schwetzingen Festspiele and Bachfest Leipzig (Germany), La Chaise-Dieu, Festival d'Ambronay and Musique & Mémoire (France), Styriarte Graz (Austria), Festival Anima Mundi Pisa (Italy) as well as Festival AMUZ (Belgium).

Apart from her appearances as a soloist with prominent orchestras such as Gewandhausorchester Leipzig or with conductors such as Michael Schneider and Frieder Bernius, Julia enjoys singing in soloistic ensembles. Particularly inspiring for her was performing with Sigiswald Kuijken, with *Cantus Cölln* directed by Konrad Junghänel, with *Weser-Renaissance Bremen* under Manfred Cordes, with *La Capella Ducale & Musica Fiata* under Roland Wilson as well as with *Balthasar-Neumann-Chor, -Solisten & Ensemble* directed by Pablo Heras-Casado.

Long-standing collaborations include work with French ensemble *Les Timbres*. With the pianist Nao Aiba she forms the Liedduo Weimar. As a co-founder of the ensemble *Camerata Bachiensis* she has dedicated herself to the Central German repertoire around Johann Sebastian Bach.

Her roles on stage include *Ottavia – L'incoronazione di Poppea* (Monteverdi), *Proserpine – title role* (Lully), *Aminta – Aminta e Fillide* (Händel), *Venus – Adonis* (Kusser), *Vesperta – Pimpinone* (Telemann) and the witch – *Hänsel und Gretel* (Humperdinck).

Julia was a prize-winner and finalist of several international competitions. She performs regularly on Radio and Television and has recorded several CDs, the most recent being a recording of Monteverdi's *Selva morale e spirituale* with Pablo Heras-Casado (Harmonia Mundi).

Her projects in 2018 include a concert performance of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* (as Belinda) in Basel, the programme *The blissful Twins Milton & Händel* with her baroque ensemble *scenitas* within the Händel-Festspiele Halle (baroque gesture and stage direction: Sigrid T'Hooft) as well as Telemann's dramatic cantata *Ino*.

Further information on: www.juliakirchner.com

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Short version

Soprano Julia Kirchner studied classical singing and early music, vocal pedagogy, Lied-interpretation as well as romance languages in Leipzig, Basel, London, Rome and Weimar. Amongst her teachers are Jeanette Favaro-Reuter, Ulrich Messthaler, Karl-Peter Kammerlander and Penelope MacKay. Furthermore, working with Margreet Honig, Susanne Scholz, Sigiswald Kuijken and Sigrid T'Hooft was very inspiring for her singing career.

As a soloist she has been invited to perform throughout Europe in prestigious festivals, such as *Händel-Festspiele Halle* and *Schwetzingen Festspiele* (Germany), *Styriarte Graz* (Austria) as well as *La Chaise-Dieux*, *Festival d'Ambronay* and *Musique & Mémoire* (France). She has worked with ensembles such as *Cantus Cölln*, *Weser-Renaissance Bremen*, *Balthasar-Neumann-Chor & -Solisten Camerata Bachiensis*, *Les Timbres* and conductors such as Sigiswald Kuijken, Konrad Junghänel, Pablo Heras-Casado, Michael Schneider, Roland Wilson, Manfred Cordes and Frieder Bernius.

Julia was a prize-winner and finalist of several international competitions. She performs regularly on Radio and Television and has recorded several CDs.

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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