

Mirella Hagen – Vita

The young soprano Mirella Hagen studied at the music academy in Karlsruhe with Prof. Christiane Hampe and in Stuttgart with Prof. Ulrike Sonntag, with whom she continues her studies. She graduated with honours in singing and Lied-interpretation (Prof. Cornelis Witthoefft) and gained the highest level degree for her studies as an operatic soloist. To gain further experiences she additionally took part in masterclasses with Edith Mathis, Prof. Ulf Bästlein and Charles Spencer, Helen Donath and Helmuth Deutsch.

During her studies she was supported by the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes, the foundation Yehudi Menuhin – Live Music Now and the Richard Wagner Society Stuttgart. She won prizes at foundations such as Jugend musiziert and the Music Academy Competition, the Paula-Salomon-Lindberg Competition and she was finalist in the Hugo Wolf Competition Stuttgart where she was awarded for her Lied interpretations with the Thomas Wiese and the Trude Eipperle Rieger sponsorship, and the promotion prize from the Hugo Wolf Competition in Slovenj Gradec (Slovenia).

After her studies Mirella Hagen was engaged to the opera studio of the Staatsoper Stuttgart and sang roles there such as Ännchen (Der Freischütz). At the theater in Regensburg she sang Gretel (Hänsel und Gretel) among others and at the Opera Vlaanderen she appeared as Anna (Nabucco) and Papagena (Die Zauberflöte). While at the Opera Vlaanderen, she also sang the roles of the 1e Knappe and 1e Blumenmädchen in the Staging of the Year awarded and Opera Magazine Award winning production of Parsifal. Further engagements brought her to the Opera Dortmund and Komische Oper Berlin. In autumn 2016 she made her Austrian debut at the Theater an der Wien as Betty in Salieri's „Falstaff“ under René Jacobs. In december 2016 and january 2017 she is returning to the Opera Vlaanderen to appear as Pamina (Zauberflöte).

At the State Theater Braunschweig she made her role debuts as Adina (L'elisir d'amore) and Fiorella (Les brigants), further roles were Eliza Doolittle (My Fair Lady) and roles within her lyric repertoire such as Gilda (Rigoletto), and Pamina (Zauberflöte) and the soprano part of the Brahms Requiem.

In summer 2013 she made her internationally acclaimed debut at the Bayreuther Festspiele as Woglinde in „Rheingold“ and „Götterdämmerung“ and the Waldvogel in „Siegfried“ (director: Frank Castorf, conductor: Kirill Petrenko) and was invited for the festival in 2014 and 2015.

Mirella Hagen sang with the Konzerthausorchester with Iván Fischer the 1e Verkäuferin in „Der Silbersee“ by Kurt Weill. Under Sir Simon Rattle she sang Woglinde in a concert performance of Rheingold in the Herkulesaal of the Residenz in München with the symphononic orchestra of the Bayerischen Rundfunk. The concert was recorded and is available on CD on BR Klassik.

Besides to her opera activities this versatile artist is in demand as a concert singer. She has worked closely with Helmuth Rilling, performing in Korea, Milan and Moscow and appearing with him at the Beethovenfest Bonn, the Europäisches Musikfest Stuttgart and the Bachwoche Stuttgart.

Under his baton she sang the „Exsultate, jubilate“ and the c-minor mass of Mozart, the Magnificat, sacred cantatas and the St. Matthew Passion of Bach. At the Opera Vlaanderen she also sang the first soprano of the c-minor mass of Mozart under conductor Umberto Benedetti Michelangeli. For Hans-Christoph Rademann she sang the St. Johns Passion with the Polish National Radio Symphonic Orchestra in Kattowitz.

A further focus of her young career is as a performer of Lieder. A strong collaboration connects her to the pianist Kerstin Mörk, with her she has performed, amongst other venues, in the Villa Wahnfried in Bayreuth. The two musicians recorded their debut cd with songs by Richard Strauss, Ludwig Thuille and Hugo Wolf. It came out in 2016 at the label GENUIN and was internationally very well received by the music press.