

Biography Christianne Stotijn

The Dutch mezzo-soprano Christianne Stotijn was born in Delft and studied violin and voice at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam. After obtaining her solo violin diploma she continued her vocal studies with Udo Reinemann and Dame Janet Baker. She is currently coached by professor Josef Loibl. Over the years Christianne has won numerous awards, including the prestigious ECHO Rising Stars Award 2005/2006, the Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award in 2005, and the Nederlands Muziekprijs in 2008. In 2007 she was selected as a BBC New Generation Artist.

Christianne is a passionate interpreter of art songs. Accompanied by the pianists Joseph Breinl and Julius Drake, with whom she has a longstanding duo partnership, she has appeared in the world's leading concert venues. She regularly performs chamber music with musicians such as the violist Antoine Tamestit, her brother the double bassist Rick Stotijn and the Oxalys Ensemble.

The conductor Bernard Haitink has had a profound influence on Christianne's career. Under his direction she has performed with orchestras including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra and London Symphony Orchestra.

Christianne has also worked with world-class conductors such as Claudio Abbado, Ivan Fischer, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Andris Nelsons, Gustavo Dudamel, Mark Elder and Jaap van Zweden, performing repertoire including: Berlioz's *La Mort de Cléopâtre* and *Les Nuits d'été*, Elgar's *Sea Pictures*, Britten's *Phaedra*, Mussorgsky's *Songs and Dances of Death*, Mahler's *Rückert Lieder* and *Kindertotenlieder*, the *Neruda Songs* by Peter Lieberon, *Fünf neapolitanische Lieder* by Hans Werner Henze, Wagner's *Wesendonck Lieder* and *Sieben frühe Lieder* by Alban Berg.

She has performed diverse world premières of contemporary works. For instance, Michel van der Aa jointly dedicated his song cycle *Spaces of Blank* to Christianne and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in 2009. In 2013 she sang the world première of *Totentanz* by Thomas Adès at the Proms in the Royal Albert Hall, London.

Christianne also appears regularly on the operatic stage. She has sung the role of Pauline in *Pique Dame* at the Paris Opera, Isabella in *L'Italiana in Algeri* at the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, Ottavia in *Poppea* at the Dutch National Opera, the Teatro Campoamor in Oviedo and the Teatro Arriaga in Bilbao. She sang Cornelia in *Giulio Cesare* at the Théâtre de la Monnaie in Brussels and at the

Dutch National Opera. Other major engagements have included the title role in *Tamerlano* at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden and the role of Brangäne in a concertante performance of Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde*. In 2014 she appeared as *Marfa* in Mussorgsky's *La Khovanshchina* at Oper Stuttgart.

In 2019 she performed the role of *Marguerite* during a concertante performance of *La Damnation de Faust* with the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra.

In 2020 she made her role-debut as *Kundry* in Wagner's *Parsifal* at the Opéra du Rhin in Strasbourg.

Since 2013 Christianne Stotijn is the artistic director of the *Udo Reinemann International Masterclasses*, based in Brussels.

Since 2017 she teaches at the Royal Conservatory of Gent.

Christianne Stotijn's recordings are brought out by the Onyx label and Warner Classics. In 2010 her recording of Tchaikovsky songs received the BBC Music Magazine Award. For the MDG label Christianne recorded a work close to her heart: *Die Weise von Liebe und Tod des Cornets Christoph Rilke* by Frank Martin. This recording earned her the ECHO Award 'Liedeinspielung des Jahres 2008'. Her Album 'If the Owl calls again' received the Gramophone's editor's choice with the comment:

"Eclectic and engaging throughout, this recital has a strong sense of personality and personal choice-running throughout it"

Her most recent cd from 2020 with Thomas Ades' *Totentanz* recorded with the Boston Symphony Orchestra for the Deutschen Grammophon label won a Gramophone award.

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