

# Margaretha Bessel

Margaretha Bessel works as a singer, performer and voice-therapist in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, and gives master classes for young artists throughout Europe and in the US.

## Education:

Masters Degree (Diploma: organ, conducting, voice and vocal pedagogy) at Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst, Frankfurt am Main; „recital-class“ with Charles Spencer (London) and Rainer Hoffmann.

Masters Degree in art song and oratorio (Konzertfach) at Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst, Karlsruhe. Collaboration with Claar ter Horst (Berlin) and Thomas Seyboldt (Director of 'Schubertiade')

## Scholarship:

Full scholarship for musical and vocal studies, private coaching, and Young Artists programs at the Evangelisches Studienwerk Villigst from 1992 to 1998.

## International Masterclasses:

Jessica Cash (London); Kurt Equiluz (Vienna); Vicky Hall (Cologne); Rainer Hoffmann (Frankfurt); Margreet Honig (Amsterdam); Charlotte Lehmann (Hannover); John Norris (New York); Cornelius L. Reid (New York); Helmut Rilling (Stuttgart); Charles Spencer (London); Sarah Walker (London); and Hilde Zadek (Vienna).

## Performance:

Various concerts and concert-tours as soprano in Germany, the Netherlands, France, Italy, Switzerland, Poland, the Baltic States, Russia, Turkmenistan, Israel, South-America and New York City. Performed a wide variety of recitals in seven languages (German, English, French, Italian, Dutch, Spanish and Russian) with re-known pianists from Germany and New York, as well as opera, operetta, oratorio and chanson. Sang and recorded with the "Stuttgarter Rundfunkchor" and "Hessischer Rundfunk". Recorded John Alden Carpenter's song-cycle "Gitanjali" with pianist Hilko Dumno in 2002 and recorded "Spirituals – Balm for the Soul" with organist Thorsten Mäder in Beijing, China in April 2006. Takes special interest in music of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## Recital repertoire includes:

**German-English:** "The Song that I came to sing" (with J.A. Carpenter's "Gitanjali");

"Night and Dreams" (Strauss, Berg, Hundley, Porter);

"Galathea und Gigerlette" (Cabaretsongs by Schönberg, Zemlinsky, Britten, Bolcom)

**German:** "Liebe schwärmt auf allen Wegen" (Goethe's "Westöstlicher Diwan" by various);

"Bald gras ich am Neckar" (Brentano poems by Strauss, Mahler, Wolf, Schönberg, Zemlinsky);

"Singt mein Schatz wie ein Fink" (G. Keller's cycle "Alte Weisen" by Pfitzner, Bartok, Brahms, Wolf)

**French:** "Mallarmé - The World in a Poem" (Mallarmé poems by Debussy, Ravel, Milhaud, Arrieu).

**Spanish:** "AY" - Canciones españolas (Manuel de Falla, Federico G. Lorca, Joaquín Turina, Fernando Sor)

## Operatic roles include:

**Gluck** (Euridice, Orfeo); **Mozart** (Pamina, Königin der Nacht, Zauberflöte; Gräfin, Susanna, Figaro's Hochzeit; Zerlina, Don Giovanni; Despina, Fiordiligi, Entführung aus dem Serail); **von Weber** (Ännchen, Agathe, Freischütz) **Nicolai** (Frau Fluth, Lustige Weiber von Windsor); **Massenet** (Manon, Manon); **Donizetti** (Norina, Don Pasquale); **Puccini** (Lauretta, Gianni Schicchi; Mimi, Musette, La Bohème; Manon, Manon Lescaut); **Rossini** (Rosina, Barbier von Sevilla); **Bellini** (Norma, Norma); **Bizet** (Micaela, Carmen); **Gounod** (Juliette, Romeo et Juliette); **Verdi** (Gilda, Rigoletto; Oskar, Un ballo in maschera); **J. Offenbach** (Antonia, Olympia, Hoffmanns Erzählungen); **J. Strauss** (Adele, Fledermaus); **R. Strauß** (Zerbinetta, Ariadne auf Naxos); **Lehar** (Giuditta, Giuditta); **Bernstein** (Cunegonde, Candide)

## Private Education:

- Breathing-Therapy „Bipolar Constitution“ (R.Alavi Kia, Vienna/R. Schulze-Schindler, Bremen) 1994-1998.
- NLP-Practitioner, "Essence Individual Trainer" (1999) and "Energy Therapist" since 2004 (Jaffe/Davidson).
- Vocal Training since 1998 with Cornelius L. Reid (NYC), author of „Bel Canto“ and „Free the Voice“.