

## Sofia Jernberg, vocal artist

Sofia Jernberg, born in Ethiopia and brought up in Ethiopia, Vietnam and Sweden, is a singer and composer. Central to her work are unconventional techniques and sounds with focus on the human acoustic voice. Touching themes like identity, internationality, origin, belonging as well as a strong belief in communion and collaboration.

Music theatre and contemporary opera play an important role in Jernberg's artistic work. She participated in performances of Arnold Schönberg's *Pierrot lunaire* in 2010 and Salvatore Sciarrino's *Lohengrin* in 2014 by the Swedish ensemble Norrbotten NEO and embodied roles specifically written for her in new works such as *Folie à Deux* by Emily Hall and *UR\_* by Anna Thorvaldsdottir. PIERROT LUNAIRE'S production, directed by Marlene Monteiro Freitas and conducted by Ingo Metzmacher, featured her as soloist together with Klangforum Wien at the Wiener Festwochen 2021 as well as at the KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen and the Festival d'Automne à Paris 2022.

Another running theme in her work is the collaboration with visual artists such as Camille Norment in her pieces *Rapture* and *Lull*. Sofia Jernberg can be seen as a singer in the film *Union of the North* with Matthew Barney, Erna Ómarsdóttir and Valdimar Jóhannsson. She has received several commissions as a composer and recently premiered her composition *Dreams of our future* for children's choir, soprano, voice and chamber ensemble at the Ultima Festival Oslo 2022 and a new work for the Ensemble Contrechamps at the Borealis Festival 2023 in Bergen.

In 2021, she sang the successful world premiere of Chaya Czernowin's *Atara* with the Radio-Sinfonieorchester Wien at the Musikverein Wien presented by the Festival Wien Modern. She performed a solo concert at the Warsaw Autumn 2022 and made her debuts in 2023 with the Collegium Novum Zurich and Schönberg's *Pierrot Lunaire* in Basel and Zurich, with the Ensemble Resonanz and the programme *Hymns & Laments* at the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg as well as at the Lucerne Festival Forward with Fausto Romitelli's *An Index of Metals – a video opera*.

In the season 2024/25, Sofia will perform the programme *Noise Uprising: A Polystylistic Atlas* at De Bijloke Gent and at the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival together with the ZWERM Ensemble. Furthermore, she will sing the world premiere of Chaya Czernowin's piece *No!* with the LA Phil New Music Group at the Walt Disney Concert Hall Los Angeles as well as the German premiere with the WDR Sinfonieorchester at the WDR Funkhaus Cologne. She will also make her debuts at the Armory Hall New York in a solo recital as well as at the Concertgebouw Brugge in her programme *Eroica I* and will give a duo concert with Alexander Hawkins at the Jazzfest Berlin.

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