

Juliana Zara, coloratura-soprano

Vocally, the young Californian coloratura soprano is an ideal choice because, in addition to her stage presence, she possesses the certainty in the extreme high notes that Berg expressly demands.
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Critics and audience raved following Juliana Zara's riotous success of her role debut as Lulu (A. Berg) at the Staatstheater Darmstadt in the staging of Eva-Maria Höckmayr and the musical direction of Daniel Cohen. For her outstanding performance of this role, she was even nominated for the FAUST Award 2023 and was featured on the cover of the May 2023 edition of OPERNWELT magazine. Being a very enthusiastic interpreter of 20th/21st century repertoire, she sang Wolfgang Rihm's *Ophelia Sings* at the Bayerische Staatsoper in Munich as well as Olga Neuwirth's *Piazza dei Numeri* with the ECHO Ensemble in Berlin. In 2021, she performed the world premiere *Transstimme* by Fabià Santcovsky at the Munich Biennale's invitation as well as *Singularity* by Miroslav Srnka at the Cuvillies-Theater/Bayerische Staatsoper with the Klangforum Wien.

In the season 2023/24, Juliana will make her debuts as Olympia in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* (Offenbach), Adina in *L'elisir d'amore* (Donizetti) and as Morgana in *Alcina* (Händel) at the Staatstheater Darmstadt. Furthermore, she will sing György Ligeti's *Mysteries of the Macabre* and *Nouvelles Aventures* under the baton of Patrick Hahn together with the Sinfonieorchester Wuppertal. In June 2024, she will make her debut at the Concertgebouw Amsterdam (Zaterdag Matinee) as Cat in Unsuk Chin's opera *Alice in Wonderland* with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of Markus Stenz.

In spring 2022, the CD recording *Der Kaiser von Atlantis* (Viktor Ullmann) has been released under the BR Klassik label with the Munich Radio Orchestra and conductor Patrick Hahn; for her impressive interpretation of the role *Bubikopf* Juliana Zara has been nominated as *Female Singer of the Year 2023* by Opus Klassik. She also performed with the Symphonieorchester in Göttingen and at the Boston Early Music Festival.

Between 2019-2021, Juliana has been a member of the Opernstudio at the Bayerische Staatsoper and sang roles such as Frasquita (*Carmen*), Philine (*Mignon*) and Mercedes (*Schön ist die Welt*) as well as Luciano Berio's *Sequenza III*. Her repertoire includes the roles Zerbinetta (*Ariadne auf Naxos*), Blonde (*Entführung aus dem Serail*), Isotta (*Die Schweigsame Frau*), Adele (*Die Fledermaus*), Papagena (*Die Zauberflöte*) and Chief of Gepopo (*Le Grand Macabre*).

Since the season 2021/22, she is a member of the ensemble at the Staatstheater Darmstadt. She made her successful house debut singing the role of Daisy in Paul Abraham's *Ball im Savoy*. Besides her outstanding debut as Lulu, she performed *Alice in Wonderland* by Anno Schreier and Zerlina in *Don Giovanni*.

Juliana Zara completed her bachelor's degree at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, where she was awarded a scholarship by mentor Marilyn Horne. Under the tutelage of Prof. Anna Korondi, Juliana earned her master's degree at the Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler Berlin.

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