Julia Kurig Yazaki - biography

The German-Japanese mezzo-soprano Julia Kurig Yazaki (b. 2003) grew up alternately in Freiburg im Breisgau and Chigasaki.

She has received scholarships from the Hans and Eugenia Jütting Foundation in Stendal and the Richard Wagner Association. She is prizewinner of the Lions Club Music Prize.

Last year, together with pianist Sofi Simeonidis, she won the prize of the Vrienden van het Lied Audition and has given numerous recitals, including at the 'Klänge der Stadt' festival.

This year she will perform her programme 'Excludable femininity - female identity in art song' at the International Song Festival Zeist. She will also perform with viola da gamba player and cellist Amarilis Dueñas Castán at the Paxos Music Festival and at the Festival Música Sacra Granada with their programme "Dream of time".

She studied with Sabine Seidel in Freiburg. Since October 2022 she has been studying for a Bachelor's degree with Prof. Lioba Braun at the Cologne University of Music and Dance. As a student of Prof. Ulrich Eisenlohr and the daughter of a Lied pianist, she has devoted herself intensively to the interpretation and research of art song. She specialises in the interpretation of 20th century Japanese art songs, contemporary art songs and the works of female composers.

In 2023 she sang her first opera role as "Domiziano" in the German premiere of the baroque opera "Il Tito" by Antonio Cesti in a university production. In the spring of 2024, she sang one of the lead roles, Dorinda, in "Le trame deluse" at the Hochschule für Musik und Tanz in Cologne as part of the "Rheinische Opernakademie".

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