

Vita English

Julia Oesch

Mezzo-Soprano/Contralto



Julia Oesch's various activities are based on her international career as an opera and concert singer and on her teaching and coaching assignments.

Just recently she joined the Nationaltheater Mannheim in Germany as a permanent member in the opera chorus.

The German mezzo-soprano has appeared in leading opera houses, i. e. in Germany, Italy, France, Spain, Netherlands, Portugal, Switzerland, Austria and Thailand.

Acclaimed music festivals have invited Ms. Oesch as an opera and concert singer, i.e. the Tanglewood Music Center in the USA, the Ravinia Festival near Chicago (USA), the Tiroler Festspiele in Erl, the Richard Wagner Festival in Wels, the Wiener Festwochen and the Salzburger Festspiele (all in Austria), as well as the French Festival in Aix-en-Provence.

In her opera repertoire her engagements cover the works by Richard Wagner, i.e. the roles of her Fach in the *Ring des Nibelungen*: *Erda (Rheingold & Siegfried)*, *Floßhilde (Rheingold)*, *Fricka (Rheingold & Walküre)*, *Rossweisse, Schwertleite, Siegrune (Walküre)*, *1. Norne, Waltraute (Götterdämmerung)*; *Parsifal (Kundry)*; *Der fliegende Holländer (Mary)*. Furthermore her roles include *Orfeo* from *Orfeo & Euridice*, Mozart's *3. Dame* from *Die Zauberflöte* or *Margret* from Berg's *Wozzek*.

Concert and church music continue to be important aspects in Julia Oesch's performing career. Her repertoire in oratorio includes *Elias* by Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, the *Messa da Requiem* by Giuseppe Verdi, Bach's *Christmas-Oratorio*, the *Johannes-Passion*, the *B-Minor Mass* and the *Matthäus-Passion*, Händel's *Messiah*, the *Missa in C* and the *Requiem* by Mozart and various masses by Haydn, Beethoven and Bruckner. The *Choral Fantasy*, the Symphony No. 9 by Ludwig van Beethoven, the Alto-Rhapsody by Johannes Brahms, Gustav Mahler's Symphony No.8 (Contralto II/ *Maria Aegyptiaca*) and *Das Lied von der Erde* and *Six Songs* op.13 by Alexander von Zemlinsky are the symphonic compositions in her repertoire.

Julia Oesch's musical studies began with playing the violin. While studying at the Frankfurt Conservatory she also received voice lessons. In 1992 Julia Oesch continued to study voice at the Musikhochschule Detmold. In the summer of 1994 she was a scholarship recipient at the Tanglewood Music Center. There she met and worked with Phyllis Curtin and Seiji Ozawa. She earned her Master of Music Diploma at Boston University in 1997, studying with Phyllis Curtin.

Currently she tours with the **Duo MezzoPiano** which she founded in 2019, together with the pianist Lena Wüst. The programs are semi-staged and the thrilling performances are described as "finest hours".

With her previous **Duo Songways** she performed together with the pianist Jens Barnieck mainly American compositions, since both artists studied and lived in the USA.

Coaching and teaching continue to be important for Julia Oesch. She maintains her own studio for voice and violin. At the Nationaltheater Mannheim she has taught opera chorus members. Other teaching positions brought her to the Musikhochschule Lübeck, the WDR radio station *Chorakademie* in Dortmund and to the renowned Domsingschule Limburg/Hassia. She loves to work with young students and to prepare them for their professional careers.

In 2015/16 she was a participant and violinist of the New Year's tour through China with the *Berlin Film Orchestra*, under the baton of Maestra Christiane Silber. She regularly plays in regional orchestras with performances of i.e. the mass *The Armed Man* by Karl Jenkins or the Symphony No.2 by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy.

Julia Oesch' discography encloses the complete edition of Richard Wagner's *Ring des Nibelungen* (Arte Nova label): *Das Rheingold*, *Erda*, *Die Walküre*, *Fricka*, *Siegfried*, *Erda*, *Götterdämmerung*, *1. Norne*. Furthermore she recorded Verdi's *La Traviata* (*Annina*), *Die tote Stadt* (*Lucienne*) by Erich W. Korngold (DVD) and *Die ägyptische Helena* (*Elfe*) by Richard Strauss. In 2014 she published a CD, with best of the *Duo Songways* and the title *Never too Late to Love!*

Julia lives in Rhineland-Palatinate/ Germany.