

soprano
MIA HEIKKINEN



Biography

Finnish Soprano Mia Heikkinen was born in Gothenburg, Sweden. She studied singing at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki and graduated with excellent grades as a Master of Music in 2009. After graduating she has been working as a freelancer and has gained reputation particularly of the beautiful silvery timbre and work as an actress.

She has also studied improvisation and improvised opera with the Finnish Improvisation Theatre Stella Polaris and the British group Impropera. In addition, Heikkinen is a founder member of the Finnish group Improa! which specialises in opera improvisation.

Mia Heikkinen made her debut at the Finnish National Opera during the 2008–2009 season as one of the bridesmaids in Weber's opera *Der Freischütz* and in the role of Papagena in Mozart's opera *Die Zauberflöte*. In the Finnish National Opera she has also sung the roles Barbarina in Mozart's opera *Le nozze di Figaro* and Giannetta in Donizetti's opera *L'elisir d'amore*, Yniold in Debussy's opera *Pelléas et Mélisande* and Jano in Janacek's opera *Jenufa*. The roles Papagena and Barbarina she has sung also in Tampere Opera in Finland. Heikkinen has sung roles like Cunegonde in Bernstein's operetta *Candide*, The Queen of the Night in Mozart's *Magic Flute*, Blonde in Mozart's opera *the Abduction from the Seraglio*, Olympia in Hoffenbach's opera *the Tales of Hoffman*, Zerlina in Mozart's opera *Don Giovanni* and Serpetta in Mozart's opera *La finta giardiniera* in Vilnius, Manchester, Switzerland and around Finland. Heikkinen is also in demand as a soprano soloist in works by young Finnish modern composers and has premiered their works in Finland, Norway and Germany.

Education

Sibelius Academy 2003-2009 Master of Music (Department of Vocal Music / Opera Singing)
Arts Academy at Turku University of Applied Sciences 2001-2008 Bachelor of Cultural Studies,
Music Educator (Degree Programme in Music, Music Educator)

Stage Experience

- *Pikku Myy, Ilkka Kuusisto: Muumiooppera, Helsingin Conservatory of Music 2017
- *Professor, M. H., Miika Hyytiäinen: Voice Box, world premiere, Musiikkitalo Helsinki 2017
- *Pepi, Johann Strauss: Wiener Blut, Aleksanterinteatteri Helsinki 2015-2017
- *Soprano (Transit), Ooppera Skaala, Helsinki 2015, Kotka 2016
- *Cunegonde, Bernstein: Candide, Vaasa Theater 2015
- *Despina, Mozart: Così fan tutte, Sibelius Academy Opera 2014
- *Barbarina, Mozart: Le nozze di Figaro, Finnish National Opera 2009-2014, Tampere Opera 2014
- *Jano, Janáček: Jenůfa, Finnish National Opera 2014
- *Papagena, Mozart: Die Zauberflöte, Finnish National Opera 2009-2013, Tampere Opera 2011
- *Sopranoroles, Ursin – Mertanen: Alan Turing (world premiere), Opera Skaala, Helsinki 2008&2013, Noa -operafestival Vilnius 2009, The Capitol Theatre Manchester 2013, Turku Operafestival 2013
- *Giannetta, Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore, Finnish National Opera 2010, 2013
- *Blonde, Mozart: Die Entführung, Kammeroper Schloss Rheinsberg, Germany 2008, Musichouse, Helsinki 2011, Seinäjoki Theatre 2013
- *Königin der Nacht, Mozart: Die Zauberflöte, Goms Opera, Switzerland 2012
- *Yniold, Debussy: Pelléas ja Mélisande, Finnish National Opera 2012, 2014
- *Mrs Nordström, Sondheim: A Little Night Music, Turku Theater 2011
- *Brautjungfer, Weber: Der Freischütz, Finnish National Opera 2008
- *Olympia, Offenbach: Les Contes d'Hoffmann, Kouvola Opera 2008
- *Zerlina, Mozart: Don Giovanni, Sibelius Academy Opera 2008
- *Girl, Merikanto: Juha, Sibelius Academy Opera 2007
- *Gretel, Humperdinck: Hänsel und Gretel, Sibelius.Academy Opera 2006
- *Serpetta, Mozart: La Finta Giardiniera, Svenska Theater /Sibelius Academy Opera 2006
- *Silja Kuula, Panula: Toivo Kuula – Unfinished Symphony (world prem.), Vaasa Opera 2006
- *Anne, Sondheim: A Little Night Music, Sibelius Academy Opera 2005
- *Susanna, Mozart: Le Nozze di Figaro, Sibelius.Academy Opera 2004

Musically studied roles

Adina Donizetti: L'elisir d'amore
Mi Lehár: Das Land des Lächelns
Adele J. Strauss: Die Fledermaus
Despina Mozart: Così Fan Tutte
Gilda Verdi: Rigoletto
Oscar Verdi: Un Ballo in Maschera
Sophie R. Strauss: Der Rosenkavalier (under work)
Zerbinetta R. Strauss: Ariadne auf Naxos
Woglinde Wagner: Rheingold (under work)
Ännchen Weber: Der Freischütz

Competitions and scholarships

International Jean Sibelius singing competition, IV prize 2011
International Voice Competition Kammeroper Schloss Rheinsberg
– Winner of an operatic role and a galaconcert 2008
Lappeenranta singing competition in Finland, II prize 2008
Kangasniemi singing competition in Finland, I prize 2007
Finnish Cultural Foundation 2014
The foundation of Pro Opera 2012
The foundation of Jenny and Antti Wihuri 2012
The foundation of Matti Salminen 2011
The foundation of Alfred Kordelin 2010
The foundation of Martin Wegelius 2009
The foundation of Pro Musica 2007
The foundation of Sibelius Academy 2007
The foundation of Selim Eskelin 2008 / 2006

Other important engagements

Opera for children about Ferdinand the ox in Kurufest, Finland 2013
Coloratura arias with orchestra in Hyvinkää, Finland 2013
Saint-Saëns: Christmas Oratorio de Noël in Helsinki, Finland 2012
Fauré: Requiem, Urkuyö ja aaria –festival in Espoo, Finland 2012
Operetta concert in Münster, Switzerland 2012
Brahms: Ein Deutsches Requiem in Turku and Naantali, Finland / Tallinn and Tartu, Estonia 2011-12
Matti Salminen and friends, charity concert in Turku, Finland 2011
Rutter: Requiem in Järvenpää, Finland 2011
Mahler: IV Symphony in Turku and Tampere, Finland 2011
Haydn: Grosse Mariazeller Messe in Turku, Finland 2010
Adam Világi: Vain Iyry väräjää for soprano and string quartet in Sastamala, Finland 2010 (world premiere)
Hynninen: Kaiku (Echo) for soprano and accordion in Helsinki Finland / Köln, Germany / Oslo, Norway
2008 (world premiere)
Donizetti: Linda's aria from Linda di Chamounix with orchestra in Rheinsberg and Frankfurt, Germany 2008
Mäntysaari: Music to Hear for soprano and orchestra in Turku, Finland 2008 (world premiere),
Rossini: Petite Messe Solennelle in Järvenpää, Finland / Tartu, Estonia 2008
Klami: In Singleness for soprano and orchestra in Helsinki, Finland 2007 (world premiere)
Hynninen: Sonnet for soprano and orchestra in Helsinki, Finland 2007 (world premiere)
Mozart: Requiem in Lappeenranta, Finland 2008
Händel: Messiah in Tampere, Finland 2007
J.S. Bach: St John passion in Espoo, Finland 2007

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