

Philipp Mathmann - Countertenor / Soprano

VITA

"Philipp Mathmann is a real discovery. As the young Farinelli, the countertenor focuses on youthful naivety. With virtuosity, he seamlessly transitions his soprano into Cecilia Bartoli's mezzo-soprano in individual arias." - Kurier, Susanne Zobl - 12.07.2024

"Mathmann is the man for the extreme heights this evening with the Freiburg Baroque Orchestra. Especially in the soprano regions, where the air becomes thin, his head voice blossoms once more and acquires a radiance about which one can only marvel..." - Badische Zeitung, Georg Rudiger - January 2022

"Abel, the younger brother, is sung by soprano Philipp Mathmann with irritatingly beautiful, bell-clean naivety." -Richard Lorber, WDR3 Opernblog - January 2020

Philipp Mathmann's singular voice surprises with its self-evident high notes, its bright clarity, and fascinates with its intensity. The young German singer is now one of the most internationally sought-after countertenors of his generation.

Growing up in Lippstadt, he began his vocal training with Friederike Vomhof-Surrey and Heike Hallaschka. He worked for many years with Renate Faltin and Annette Goeres in Berlin, and has received important impulses from renowned interpreters such as Ingeborg Danz, Kai Wessel and Barbara Schlick, Antonio Lemmo, Nicholas Clapton and Dame Emma Kirkby.

Since his operatic debut in 2011 in the operatic pastiche "La Mara" at the Theater des Schlosses Sanssouci in Potsdam, Mathmann has been a regular guest at international music festivals, such as the Festival Winter in Schwetzingen, the Musikfest Bremen, the Festival Oude Muziek in Utrecht, the MAfestival in Bruges, the Styriarte in Graz, the Festival della Valle d'Itria in Italy, the Tage Alter Musik in Herne, the International Handel Festival in Göttingen, the Ludwigsburg Schlossfestspiele and the Handel Festival in Halle.

Early music is one of Mathmann's main loves. He has sung the leading roles of Anastasio in "Giustino" by G. F. Händel, Zelim in "La verità in cimento" by A. Vivaldi and Mirtillo in "Il pastor fido" by G. F. Händel, among others. In 2018, he made his Moscow debut as "La Bellezza" in a staged production of Handel's oratorio "Il Trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno" at the Stanislavsky Theater in Moscow. He was the first countertenor in the world to take on this highly demanding soprano role and was nominated for the Golden Mask Award as "Best Opera Performer" for his interpretation. In 2020, at the Essen Aalto Theater, he took on the role of Abel in the staged version of A. Scarlatti's oratorio "Cain and Abel", directed by Dietrich W. Hilsdorf, which was nominated several times for the Faust Prize. Other engagements have taken Philipp Mathmann to the Semperoper Dresden, the Teatro Real in Madrid, Bayreuth, the Opéra de Monte-Carlo, the Opéra de Versailles, the Staatsoper unter den Linden in Berlin and the Vienna State Opera, among others.

Philipp Mathmann can also be heard on the concert podium at prominent venues, such as the Kölner Philharmonie, the Tonhalle Düsseldorf, the Alte Oper Frankfurt, the TivoliVredenburg in Utrecht, the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall in Moscow, the Konzerthaus Wien, La Seine Musicale de Paris and the concert halls of Dortmund and Freiburg.

Regular collaborations connect him with the most renowned, historically-informed ensembles, such as the Freiburg Baroque Orchestra, Les Talens Lyriques, the Akademie für Alte Musik (Akamus) Berlin,

the Ensemble Questa Musica in Moscow, the Orkiestra Historyczna ("OH!"), Armonia Atenea, I Barocchisti, Ensemble 1700 and Concerto Köln.

His first CD recording, "["La deposizione dalla croce di Gesu Cristo"](#)" by F. X. Richter with the Czech Ensemble Baroque in 2017, was followed by numerous radio and television productions with ARTE, Hessischer Rundfunk, WDR, Dutch Classical Radio (NPO Radio 4), Moscow 24 and Deutschlandfunk among others. He collaborates regularly with eminent conductors, such as George Petrou, Christophe Rousset, Gianluca Capuano, Philipp Chizhevskiy, Martyna Pastuszka, Dorothee Oberlinger, Rubén Dubrovsky and Diego Fasolis. In the 2023/24 season, Mathmann toured in the role of Lukas Dahlberg/Farinellis on a tour of the opera pastiche "Their Master's Voice" with Cecilia Bartoli and John Malkovich.

His highly-acclaimed debut solo CD (["Tormenti d'Amore"](#)), released in 2020, features four love cantatas by Baroque and Viennese Classical composers (J.A. Hasse, G. Porsile and J.G. Reutter), three of which are world premiere recordings. This was followed by world premiere recordings with the labels Carus (Der Taucher by C. Kreutzer) and Sony (L'huomo by A. Bernasconi), in both of which he sang the male lead in 2023/24.

Mathmann's repertoire is, however, not limited to early music. In the 2021/2022 season, for example, he took on the role of the Angel in the world premiere of Thorsten Rasch's "Die andere Frau" at the Semperoper Dresden and the role of the Scorpion Man in Jörg Widmann's "Babylon" at the International May Festival at the Staatstheater in Wiesbaden.

Philipp Mathmann is a "Jugend Musiziert" national prize winner and was a multiple prize winner at the international Giulio Perotti Singing Competition. He received scholarships to the Hochschule für Musik und Tanz in Cologne, the Musikhochschule in Detmold and the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes.

[In the coming 2022/2023 season he will perform at the Berlin State Opera, the Bayreuth Festival, in Korea, at the Cologne Philharmonic concert hall and at the Sanssouci Music Festival in Potsdam, among others.](#)