

Denise Seyhan's mature dramatic mezzo has been characterized warm and sparkling in all ranges and has a unique timbre. Growing up in Wipperfürth, Germany, known for their elaborate Carnival celebration, the German-Turkish Mezzo loves spreading the cheerful nature of the Rheinland.

In 2004, she graduated in classical vocal studies at Musikhochschule Karlsruhe, and continued private studies with Gabriele Kniesel (Musikhochschule Freiburg). Denise spent a few years as a soprano, making her first debuts on the opera stage in the roles of *Pamina* and *First Lady* as an ensemble member of the *Junge Kammeroper Köln*. After changing back to the Mezzo Fach in 2006, she got her first engagement in 2008 as a mezzo singing *Dorabella* in *Così fan tutte* of *Pasinger Fabrik*. Shortly after, she sang *Hänsel* and *Maria Bellacanta* (*Hexe Hillary geht in die Oper*) at *Junge Kammeroper Köln*.

Since 2009 until 2017, Denise focused her training in the Italian Bel Canto technique with the baritone Walter Donati and his wife, the Italian Soprano Anna Rita Esposito, which developed her voice into a more dramatic repertoire.

Under the musical leadership of Johannes Witt she sang the *Knusperhexe* at the Rheinische Kammeroper in 2009 and 2010. In winter 2013, she was invited to sing the female lead part in the world premiere of the opera *Konrad oder Das Kind aus der Konservenbüchse* by Gisbert Näther at the Musiktheater Gelsenkirchen. After that successful production, she was again engaged in spring 2014 to sing the first recording of Georg Pelecis' composition *In Honour of Henry Purcell* for chamber orchestra and three counter-tenors. During May 2014 she sang the roles of *Sorceress* and *Second Witch* of *Dido and Aeneas* by Henry Purcell in an operatic concert in Kaiserslautern. In 2015, she performed *3rd Woodsprite* of Dvorak's opera *Rusalka* at the Stadttheater Pforzheim. During 2016, she was acting as *Birsen Güner* in *Gegen die Wand*, an opera composed by Ludger Vollmer, at the Stadttheater Gießen. In summer 2017, she has made her debut as *Ulrica* in *Un ballo in maschera* by Verdi staged by the *Kammeroper Frankfurt*. Moving more to the Dramatic Mezzo-Soprano Fach, she sang *Amneris* and *Fricka* (*Walkyrie*) in Munich in 2018 and also *Maddalena* in *Rigoletto*. At the Stadttheater Heidelberg she performed the role of *Dora K.* in *Benjamin* by Peter Ruzicka. In the world premier of the chamber opera *Durst* by Robert Jiša at *Tanzquartier Wien (TQW)* she will interpret the part of the Alto. As 3rd Lady she was acting in *Die Sarastro-Show* after Mozarts Magic Flute in summer 2021. Also in 2021, she sang the Alto in the filming of the Chamber-opera *Thirst* by Robert Jiša in *Tanzquartier Wien (TQW)*. The piece will have its world premier at Olomouc Musicfestival in Czech republic in May 2022.

„Working with Denise Seyhan has always been a great pleasure. She's an outstanding singer and an excellent actress", Elias Grandy, GMD, Theater and Orchester Heidelberg

In 2020, Denise Seyhan was a finalist of *Prix Atelier d'excellence* specializing in Italian opera and a semi-finalist of *NYIOP* singing competition. In the Wagner category of

the 2018 *Nuovo Canto* singing competition in Milan, Italy, she was a semi-finalist as well.

Since 2016 she is working with the American theater coach Margaret Singer and additionally as of late with the Italian theater coach Alessandro Praticò (Badisches Staatstheater). Her past and present collaborations include working with Alessandro Amoretti, Johannes Zimmermann, Elias Grandy, Ricardo Estrada, Martin Hannus, Julio Mirón, Christoph Gedschold, Daniel Carlberg, Julia Simonyan and Simone di Felice.

„Honestly I loved how you changed in just 10min of thinking in new ideas! This is so good and not so usual! Well done dear brava!!“, Ricardo Estrada, Conductor

In 2018, she strengthened her stagecraft in a workshop focusing on the Chekhov acting method by Mario Andersen. She further refined these skills with directors like Gabriele Wiesmüller, Ulla Theissen, Kristina Wuss, Cathérine Miville, Bettina Lell, Ingo Kerkhof and Sascha von Donat, the acclaimed actress Hergard Engert, and the actor Paul Hänel.

Denise's outstanding open mindedness and joy of playing, has recently been emphasized by Neil Barry Moss (Deutsche Oper Berlin), enabling her to excel, especially in experimental staging concepts.

Denise Seyhan further enriched her technique in masterclasses with Alexia Voulgaridou, Alessandro Amoretti, Neil Barry Moss, Rolando Garza Rodríguez, Cameron Burns, Maya Barsacq, Ricardo Estrada, Scott Barnes, Kleesie Kelly, Ingeborg Most and Anna Reynolds.

„It was such a pleasure to work with you! You absolutely have the voice for Santuzza!“, Alexia Voulgaridou, Operasinger

Apart from her operatic career she appears at concerts venues in Germany and abroad. During summer of 2012, she was singing the alto-part of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* at the Reims Cathedral/France. 2010, she went on tour with the *Westsächsische Symphonieorchester* in Quintana Roo, Mexico. Compositions like Händel's *Messiah*, *Stabat Mater* by Pergolesi and by Dvořák, and Mendelssohn-Bartholdy's *Paulus* have further enriched her repertoire. A Future release of the *Liebesliederwalzer* by Brahms is planned with Naxos Records.

She discovered her passion for producing classical music videos in 2020 and created her own showreel highlighting the many facets of her personality and work. In summer 2021, she produced in cooperation with Iphigenia Media a video version of the Song cycle "Seven early songs" by Alban Berg with the Pianist Philip Dahlem and the actress Michelle Brubach. With them she founded the Ensemble *Die Mimusen*. On the concert stage they give their debut with the theatrical song-recital „The pink danger“ in front of an enthusiastic audience.

With pianist and moderator Heike Bleckmann, she has been performing various Lied recitals and themed concerts since 2011.

Since 2002 she has been working dedicatedly as a Vocal Coach in Classic, Pop, Rock and Musical. Her Italian Bel Canto technique provides a sound basis for various musical styles and helps amateurs to develop a healthy, solid and clean singing technique.

Besides singing, she is passionate about visual arts, especially painting and silent movies. She loves keeping herself fit with jogging and yoga.