



## SARAH MARIA SUN

*Creative storyteller and virtuoso ambassador of contemporary music*



(c) Thomas Schloemann

Sarah Maria Sun is one of the most outstanding sopranos of our time, whose artistic range extends from medieval music to multimedia premieres. With over 400 world premieres and a repertoire of more than 2000 works, she makes an impact on the music scene like no other.

Her 2024/25 season promises a varied programme that combines groundbreaking projects, major opera roles and outstanding concert performances - from Schönberg's *Pierrot Lunaire* in California to the performance of *Lulu-Bruchstücke* (Alban Berg/ Eberhard Kloke) in Munich and the world premiere of Rebecca Saunders' opera *Lash - Acts of Love* at the Deutsche Oper Berlin.

Sarah Maria Sun has become internationally recognized as an interpreter of contemporary music. Her repertoire currently includes more than 2000 compositions from the 20th and 21st centuries, including more than 400 world premieres. Her interpretations are praised worldwide for their technical precision, exceptional passion, and profound musicality. *"There is no way around it in contemporary music. Sarah Maria Sun has performed around 400 premieres, and she has done so with an expressive energy that is rarely encountered on the opera stage."* (Opernwelt, March 2024, Jürgen Otten).

In recent years, she has specialized in monodramas with complex female characters. She was nominated as Singer of the Year for her interpretations of the double role of Elsa/Lohengrin (*Lohengrin* by Salvatore Sciarrino, Salzburg Easter Festival) and Gwen (*Psychosis 4.48* by Philip Venables, Semper Zwei Dresden).

Sarah Maria Sun regularly performs in the world's leading concert halls and at the world's most prestigious festivals, including Suntory Hall Tokyo, the Muziekgebouw Amsterdam, the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, the Tonhalle Zurich, the Auditorio Nacional Madrid and the philharmonic halls in Berlin and Cologne. She is a welcome guest at biennials such as Paris, Venice and Munich as well as at festivals such as Lucerne, Salzburg, Witten, Donaueschingen, Herrenhausen, Cervantino and the Vertice Festival in Mexico. *"She is one of those personalities without whom art cannot progress. Thanks to it, our horizons expand, our joy grows and our knowledge of ourselves increases."* (La Jornada, November 2023).

She can also be seen regularly at the major opera houses in Europe, for example in Zurich, Basel, Dresden, Frankfurt, Munich, Düsseldorf, Stuttgart, Mannheim, Leipzig, Strasbourg, Luxembourg, Zagreb and at the Opéra Bastille and the Opéra Comique in Paris. With her unparalleled versatility, she has performed under the baton of conductors such as Sir Simon Rattle, Ingo Metzmacher, Kent Nagano, Alan Gilbert, Thomas Hengelbrock, Susanna Mälkki, Bas Wiegiers, and Heinz Holliger. She collaborates with renowned orchestras like the Berlin Philharmonic, the Gewandhaus Orchestra Leipzig, and the symphony orchestras of NDR, BR, SWR, and WDR, as well as specialized ensembles such as Ensemble Modern, Musikfabrik, Mosaik, and Intercontemporain. Additionally, she has appeared with leading string quartets, including Diotima, Arditti, Schumann, and Signum.

From 2007 to 2014, Sarah Maria Sun was the principal soprano of the Neue Vocalsolisten Stuttgart, one of the world's leading chamber ensembles for contemporary music. Her discography includes more than 40 CDs, many of which have received awards or nominations.

In addition to her impressive career on stage, Sarah Maria Sun also devotes herself to teaching. She regularly gives masterclasses in 20th and 21st century vocal music at universities and colleges in Oslo, Harvard, Chicago, Stockholm, Zurich, Lucerne, Rostock, Moscow, Dresden, Hanover and Berlin, among others. From 2018 to 2022, she was a visiting professor, tutor and lecturer at the conservatories in Hanover, Graz and Lucerne. She has been a professor of contemporary music at the Basel University of Music since 2022.

The **2024/2025 season** marks another exciting chapter in her career. Particularly noteworthy are the premieres and collaborations with important artists and ensembles: in December 2024, in Munich's Prinzregententheater, she will perform Enno Poppe's *Augen/ Eyes* as well as the premiere of *Lulu-Bruchstücke/Lulu-Fragments* by Alban Berg/ Eberhard Kloke in a new chamber orchestra version (December 12<sup>th</sup>) together with the Munich Chamber Orchestra conducted by Bas Wiegers. Later that month, in Antwerp, she will give a solo performance in *Queen of Hearts* by Jannik Giger alongside an actor (December 20<sup>th</sup>).

In February 2025 she will go on tour with the Camerata Pacifica in California and sing the legendary *Pierrot Lunaire cycle* by Arnold Schönberg as well as songs by Kurt Weill and others. (7-13<sup>th</sup> February).

Also in Spring 2025, she will perform a Kurt Weill programme at the Konzerthaus Berlin under the direction of Iván Fischer (April 13<sup>th</sup> /14<sup>th</sup>).

In May 2025, she will then present the premiere of *Guides to Reality* by Sara Glojnaric, supported by Neustart Kultur, together with the Kuss Quartet at the 'Wittener Tagen für Neue Kammermusik' chamber music festival (May 3<sup>rd</sup>). She will also be seen in Hong Kong (March 19<sup>th</sup>), Daegu (March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>) and Vienna (May 11<sup>th</sup>) at performances of the production Amopera with the Klangforum Wien. With Klangforum Wien she will also sing Folksongs by Berio and *Le Marteau sans Maître* by Pierre Boulez in Tokyo (March 26<sup>th</sup>).

The season will be rounded off in June 2025 with the premiere and performances of Rebecca Saunders' new opera *Lash - Acts of Love* at the Deutsche Oper Berlin (premiere June 20<sup>th</sup>, June 27<sup>th</sup>, July 1<sup>st</sup>/11<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>).

- **New album:** [Silence is Golden](#) (released in February 2025) in collaboration with Kilian Herold, professor of clarinet at the Freiburg University of Music and the pianist Jan Philip Schulze, including works by Schubert, Bernstein, Ligeti, Aperghis.
- **New book:** "DEAR MOM..." will be published in 2025 and is aimed at children searching for a parent. Sarah Maria Sun has also made a name for herself as an [illustrator and author of children's books](#). Her first book, "HEINI", deals with children who grow up in a right-wing nationalist, xenophobic environment, while "WUMS DAS WIMSEL" is a light-hearted story about a little monster who falls in love with the theatre. Her third book will be published in 2025.



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