

Biography Almut Panfienko

Studies

The German soprano, Almut Panfilenko (Almut Hellwig), studied at the Hochschule für Musik Saar with Rosemarie Bühler-Fey and Irwin Gage. This was followed by a private study in Vienna with Theodore Coresi. She participated in master-classes with, inter alia, Irina Gavrilovici, Nele Gramß (early music), Klesie Kelly-Moog, Peter Kooy (early music), Elena Marinescu, Kurt Widmer and Yaron Windmüller.

Awards

She was awarded various prizes: in 1999 she won the 3rd prize in the German national competition „Jugend musiziert“ in the special category „Contemporary Music“; in 2007, she received a scholarship from the Richard-Wagner-Verband; in 2013, she won anew the 3rd prize in the „PodiumJungerGesangsSolisten“ (Podium of Young Singing Soloists) of VDKC (Verband Deutscher KonzertChöre = Association of German Concert Choirs).

Concert Singer

The focus of Almut Panfilenko is on the concert area, particularly in contemporary music. She won much attention through the first performances of Claus-Steffen Mahnkopf's solo work „Angela Nova 2“ and „Gesänge von der peripherie“ by Wolfram Schurig.

Almut Panfilenko sang at major festivals such as the „Musikfestspiele Saar“, „TAMIS“ (Tage alter Musik im Saarland = Days of the Early Music in Saarland), Festival „Euroklassik“, „Two Days and Two Nights of New Music“ in Odessa, „Internationale Ferienkurse für neue Musik“ in Darmstadt and „Bludenzer Tage zeitgemäßer Musik“. She was heard in prestigious concert venues such as „Gewandhaus zu Leipzig“, „Wiener Konzerthaus“, „Arsenal“ in Metz, „Neue Welt“ in Zwickau, „Hohe Domkirche St. Peter zu Trier“, and „Konstantinbasilika“ in Trier.

She sang with various orchestras, choirs and ensembles, including the „Kammerphilharmonie St. Petersburg“, „Trierer Philharmoniker“, „Philharmonisches Orchester Plauen – Zwickau“ and „Camerata Lipsiensis“ (Leipzig), „Gewandhauschor“, „Trierer Bachchor“, „Chorvereinigung Sachsenring Zwickau“, „Singakademie Gera“ and „Singakademie Ortenau“.

She was a singer and the voice of the ensemble „Les élats du son“ (contemporary music) and a founding member of the „Vokalconsort Parlando“ (early music). She appeared inter alia with the ensembles „PHACE“ (Vienna) and „Concert Lorrain“.

Radio Recordings

Almut Panfilenko recorded many works for the radio (SR, SWR and ORF) under her birth name Almut Hellwig, including „7 frühen Lieder“ by Alban Berg (ensemble version), „Apparition“ by George Crumb, „Frauenliebe und –leben“ by Robert Schumann, „Lieder Op. 48“ by Edward Grieg and „Wesendonklieder“ by Richard Wagner. Released on CD is, inter alia, „Angela Nova 2“ by Claus-Steffen Mahnkopf.

Opera Singer

On the opera stage Almut Panfilenko appeared, inter alia, at the Saarländisches Staatstheater, Théâtre National du Luxembourg and at the Ruhrfestspiele in Recklinghausen, e.g. as a mother in Menotti's „Amahl and the nightly visitors“, as Ida in „Die Fledermaus“, as Kate in „Madama Butterfly“, as Isabel in den „Pirates von Penzance“, as Page in „Rigoletto“, and as 1st Elfin in „Rusalka“.

She sang with conductors Toshiyuki Kamioka, Nicholas Milton and Christopher Ward.