

Josefien Stoppelenburg biography

Called "an astonishing singer" by the Chicago Tribune, soprano Josefien Stoppelenburg has performed as a soloist in the United States, Europe, Asia, and South America and the Arab Emirates. She won the Chicago Oratorio Award 2013 and 2nd place nationally in the American Prize Opera Competition 2013.

She appeared as a soloist with the Boulder Bach Festival, International Schools of Choral Music in Shanghai, Rembrandt Chamber Players, Camerata Amsterdam, Baroque Artists of Champaign Urbana, and performed live on WFMT Chicago.

From 2005 to 2007, she was part of the Young Opera Ensemble of Cologne. She and her sister, Charlotte, make up the vocal duo Charlotte and Josefien Stoppelenburg. They perform with piano duo and brothers Martijn and Stefan Blaak as ensemble Brothers and Sisters. The quartet performed in the Netherlands, United States, Italy, and recently made their debut in the Amsterdam Concertgebouw. In 1997, Charlotte and Josefien Stoppelenburg won the first prize at the Princess Christina Competition, and now enjoy national and international renown. In addition to regular appearances on television and radio, their concert for the Dutch Royal Family was broadcast live on Dutch national TV. The duo has appeared in nearly every Dutch concert hall.

Ms. Stoppelenburg's recent solo engagements include works with Chicago's Baroque Band, Haymarket Opera Company, Camerata Amsterdam, Newberry Consort, Rockford Symphony Orchestra, Fort Wayne Symphony, Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra, Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra, Peoria Bach Festival, and the role of Aci in Handel's *Aci, Galatea e Polifemo* and Tirsi in *Clori, Tirsi e Fileno* with the Haymarket Opera Company - Chicago's 17th and 18th century opera troupe, which burst onto the scene in 2011 to great critical acclaim.

Being a specialist in the Baroque style, Josefien was the featured soloist in many Baroque ensembles in the US: Baroque Artists of Champaign Urbana, Peoria Bach Festival, Cincinnati Bach Festival, Arizona Bach Festival, Boulder Bach Festival, Handel Week Festival, Baroque Band, and Newberry Consort. Josefien recently taught a vocal masterclass at Indiana University, (Jacobs School of Music) for the Historical Department.

Passionate about contemporary music, she performed many new works and world premieres, including compositions of Stacy Garrop, Lita Grier, Jacob TV, Willem Stoppelenburg, Esa-Pekka Salonen and James Whitbourn. In 2013 she made her debut in Korea with Brahms *Ein deutsches Requiem*. This was followed by the Haydn Lord Nelson Mass in 2014 in China (Beijing) and in 2015 Mozart's *Mass in C* in Shanghai. Josefien was invited to perform as a soloist for the Dutch King Willem Alexander last spring.

Josefien is also a painter. She was the Artist in Residence for the Evanston Art Center in the Fall of 2014 and paints on commission. To see her work, please visit www.inspiration-paintings.com.