

Barbara Mergelsberg

Mezzo-Soprano

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Contemporary music, art song literature, Belgian art song, vocal pedagogy, gender studies

EDUCATION

- 2015-2016 Pedagogy of Popular Singing Styles - Certification
Pop and Musical (CVT, ESTIL, SLS)
Bundesverband Deutscher Gesangspädagogen
Osnabrück (Germany)
- 2013-2014 Certification for School Direction
German Speaking Community (Belgium) & DAPF Dortmund(Germany)
- 2011 Doctor in Musical Arts (Vocal Performance)
Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University (USA)
Major Teacher: Judith Nicosia
- 2001 M.A. (Vocal Performance)
Cologne School of Music, Department Aachen (Germany)
Major Teacher: Peter Christoph Runge
- 1998 M.A. (Vocal Pedagogy)
Cologne School of Music, Department Aachen (Germany)
Major Teacher: Peter Christoph Runge
- 2006 Certified Training in Vocal Health
Institute for Vocal Education Development (IDEV), Paris (France)
Major Teacher: Iva Barthelemy
- 1999 - 2000 Erasmus Scholarship
University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna (Austria)
Major Teacher: Margarita Lilova

MASTER CLASSES

- 2010 Margo Garrett, NYSTA-Master Class, New York (USA)
- 2009 Joan Dornemann, Rutgers University (USA)
- 2008 Thomas Grubb, Rutgers University (USA)
- 2005 Andreas Scholl, Chateau de la Hulpe (Belgium)
- 2003 *One week course: Annie Frantz, Saint-Cast-Le-Guildo (France)*
- 2000 *International Summer Academy: Margarita Lilova, Varna (Bulgaria)*
- 1999 *One week course: Theresa Zilis-Gara (Monaco)*
- 1995 *One week course: Ingeborg Hallstein (Luxemburg)*

PUBLICATIONS

- 2015 “A Thousand 19th Century Belgian Art Songs” *Journal of Singing*, Vol 72 / No.2 (Nov/Dec 2015): pp. 147-160.
- 2011 “Forgotten Belgian Art Songs: Guillaume Lekeu *Trois Poemes*” *New York Singing Teacher Association, Newsletter* (Nov./Dec. 2011): pp. 4-5.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2012 “A Smorgasbord of Belgian Songs: The Beginnings: 1830-1900” *National Association of Teachers of Singing*, 52nd National Conference Orlando (USA), poster
- 2012 “Late 19th Century Belgian Art Song – Lied or Mélodie?” *Athens Institute for Education and Research*, 3rd Annual International Conference on Visual and Performing Arts, Athens (Greece), lecture
- 2012 “Advocating Belgian Art Songs (1830-1900)” *College Music Society*, East Region Conference, Fredonia (USA), lecture
- 2011 “Forgotten Belgian Art Songs: Guillaume Lekeu’s *Trois Poemes*” *College Music Society*, East Region Conference, Easton (USA), lecture recital
- 2011 “Libby Larsen’s *Me (Brenda Ueland)* as a Modern American Version of Schumann’s *Frauenliebe und Leben*” *Society of American Music*, annual conference, Cincinnati (USA), lecture recital

TEACHING

- SINCE 2011 *Voice Studio*
Music Academy of the German Speaking Community, Eupen (Belgium), Full time (tenured position)
“Primacanta, each child its voice” Further Education for primary school teachers (team-teaching)
- 2019-2020 *Initiation to Vocal Techniques*
Intitut supérieure de musique et de pédagogie, Namur (Belgique)
- 2008 - 2010 07:701:158 - *Voice Class, Level 2*
Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University (USA)
- 2007 - 2009 07:701:157 - *Voice Class, Level 1*
Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University (USA)
- 2007 - 2010 *Private voice lessons for music minors* (6 semesters)
Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University (USA)
- SPRING 2009 *Opera Workshop assistant* for scenes of “Le Dialogue des Carmelites”
Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University (USA)
- 2007 - 2008 07:700:123: *Fundamentals of Musicianship*
Tutor, Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University

2009 - 2011	<i>Private voice lessons</i> Mason Gross School of the Art, Extension Division, Rutgers University (USA)
2008 & 2009	<i>Private voice lessons</i> Summer Camp of the German Speaking Community, St. Vith (Belgium)
2003 & 2004	<i>Private voice lessons</i> Summer voice camp of the tri-state area Belgium, Germany, and Luxemburg
1998 & 1999	<i>Private voice lessons:</i> Teaching Assistant, Musikhochschule Köln, Department Aachen (Germany)

AWARDS & PRIZES

2015	Government of the German Speaking Community, Belgium- Stipend for Further Education in popular singing styles (400 Euro)
2011	Irene Alm Memorial Award for excellence in performance and scholarly research (\$1,275.88)
2010	NATS Artist Award District Winner, New Jersey
2008 - 2010	Teaching Assistantship at Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University as well as additional tuition remissions (2007-2008-\$6,000; 2008-2009-\$10,700; 2009-2010-\$11,556)
2009	Competitive Support Fund for Teaching Assistant at Mason Gross School of the Arts (\$7,505)
2008	Research Scholarship from the Government of the German Speaking Community Belgium (EUR 1,500)
2007	Fulbright Scholarship (\$20,000)
2004	<i>International Singing Competition: Guardiagrele (Italy)</i> Diploma of Merit
2004	<i>International Singing Competition: Orvieto (Italy), Semi-finalist</i>
1999	Erasmus scholarship for studies abroad in Vienna
1994	<i>International Henri-Hermam Competition (the Netherlands)</i> Prize of the town of Maastricht

RECENT SELECTED PERFORMANCES

2019	<i>Claras Liebeszauber</i> – Recital with readings from letters of Clara et Robert Schumann.
2018	<i>Musikalische Happy hour</i> – organization of three concerts: <i>Brexit</i> (oboe, voice and piano); <i>Operetta Cocktail</i> (voice and piano), <i>Musikalische Häppchen</i> (voice and woodwind quintet)

- 2016 *Musikmarathon* at Friedenskirche, Eupen, Recital with songs from Bolcom, Strauss, van Dessel and Turina with the pianist Stefan Pitz
- 2015 *Lyric im Salon* East Belgian Festival, house music - Songs from Brahms bis Swerts mit dem Pianisten Stefan Pitz (Belgien)
- 2014 *Saitenlang Stimmbandklang*
Recital with the guitar player Christa Schumacher with compositions by Dowland, Kulp, Mozart, de Falla et Lorca: La Calamine (Belgium)
- 2013
Recital with songs by Belgian composers at the Bulgarian National Radio, Sofia with pianist Rostislav Yovchev: Sofia (Bulgaria)
- Rubicon*
By Bert Appermont with the Cercle Musicale Kelmis: Kornelimunster (Germany)
- Weibliche Welten*
Recital featuring R. Schumann's *Frauenliebe und Leben* and D. Argento's *The Diary of Virginia Wolf*, pianists: Aline Beckers & Stefan Pitz: Hergenrath (Belgium)
- 2012 *It's a Grand Night for Singing*
Recital featuring Broadway songs, pianist: Aline Beckers & baritone: Erik Schmidt: Kelmis (Belgium)
- Forgotten Belgian Art Songs: Guillaume Lekeu's Trois Poemes*
Lecture Recital, pianist: Sohee Lee: Rowen University (USA)
- 2011 *Liszt-O-mania*
Birthday celebrations with music by F. Liszt, pianist Sohee Lee: New Brunswick (USA)
- C'est l'extase*
Recital on different settings of the poem *C'est l'extase* by P. Verlaine, pianist Kelly Lin: New Brunswick (USA)
- Orlofsky in J. Strauss' *Die Fledermaus*
With Symphonietta Nova, conductor Gail Hsiu-Wen Lee: Princeton (USA)
- 2010 *Belgian Colors*
Recital/Exhibition featuring Belgian art songs and paintings by Marc Van Cauwenbergh, pianist Kelly Lin and lutenist Daniel Swenberg: New Brunswick (USA)
- Een reis door Europa in 18 liederen en gedichten*
Songs and poetry from different European countries sung and spoken in original languages, pianist Elzbieta Sukniewicz: Sittard (the Netherlands)
- Libby Larsen's ME (Brenda Ueland), a 20th century Woman's Love and Life* Lecture recital: New Brunswick (USA)

Mignon Songs by Schubert and Wolf
Recital, pianist Dr. Holly Chatham: New Brunswick (USA)

Songs by Dvořák, Musto, and Strauss, pianist James Lubrano: New Brunswick (USA)

2009

6 Deutsche Lieder by Louis Spohr
with clarinetist Justin Bulava: New Brunswick (USA)

La Zelartrice in J. Puccini's *Suor Angelica*
Conductor: Kynan Johns Nicholas, Music Center: New Brunswick (USA)

Madame Rosa in G. Donizetti's *Il Campanello*
Conductor: Kynan Johns, Nicholas Music Center: New Brunswick (USA)

The Fairy Queen by H. Purcell
With the orchestra *Musica Raritana*, conductor: Andrew Kirkman,
Nicholas Music Center: New Brunswick (USA)

Eurilda in J. Haydn's *Le Pescatrici*
With the orchestra *Musica Raritana*, conductor: Andrew Kirkman (US
Premiere Performance), Nicholas Music Center: New Brunswick (USA)

It's All About Love with music by Schubert, Foerster, Rachmaninoff,
Turina, and Walton
Solo recital, pianist: Kelly Lin: New Brunswick (USA)

2008

Nicklausse in J. Offenbach's *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*
Nicholas Music Center: New Brunswick (USA)

Pierrot Lunaire by A. Schoenberg
With the HELIX Ensemble, under the direction of Paul Hoffmann,
Nicholas Music Center: New Brunswick (USA)

Hannagail in Mark Zuckerman's opera *The Outlaw and the King*
Nicholas Music Center: New Brunswick (USA)

Recital featuring Telemann cantatas: St. Vith (Belgium)

Mason Gross around the World
Recital with Min Kwon: New Brunswick Synagogue and Cultural Center
Watchung (USA)

EARLIER SELECTED PERFORMANCES

2006 Solo recital with music by Brahms, Strauss, Debussy, and Ravel
Cultural Center: Hergenrath (Belgium)

2004 *Blanche de la Force* in F. Poulenc's *Le dialogue des carmelites*
Small Theater: Liege (Belgium)

- Maria in Rodger-Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*
Cultural Center: Welkenraedt (Belgium)
- 2003 *Stabat Mater* by G.B. Pergolesi
Kuchenheim (Germany)
- 2002 Maria in Rodgers-Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*
Conservatoire: Verviers (Belgium)
- Requiem* by W.A. Mozart
Philharmonic Society: Liege (Belgium)
- East Belgian Festival Recital: St. Vith (Belgium)
- Organ Summer Recital: Eupen (Belgium)
- 2001 Gretel in E. Humperdinck's *Hansel und Gretel*
Cultural Center: Kelmis (Belgium)
- Recital with Elzbieta Suknevicz (piano), Haus Basten: Geilenkirchen
(Germany)
- Concert in honor of the introduction of the single European currency,
Town House: Aachen (Germany)
- 2000 *Das Weihnachtsoratorium* by J.S. Bach
Julich (Germany)
- 1999 Servilia in W.A. Mozart's *La Clamenza di Tito*
Theater of Aachen (Germany)

RADIO & RECORDINGS

- 2015 and 2017 Winterträumerei Konzert DVD
- 2015 CD *Blühende Stimmen* – Visualizations for singers
- 2013 : Life recording and transmission in the program
Metronome of a recital with songs by Belgian composers for the Bulgarian
National Radio, Sofia with pianist Rostislav Yovchev
- 2009 Role of Eurilda in *Le Pescatrici* (The Fisherwomen) by J. Haydn
With the orchestra *Musica Raritana*, conductor Andrew Kirkman
Live CD recording & broadcast on New Jersey Public Radio
- 2005 Interview in the radio program *Classic Forum* on the BRF
(Belgian National Radio)
- 2001 Interview in the radio program *Breakfast Café* on the BRF
(Belgian National Radio)
- 1999 *Heem*: CD recording of songs in the Carolingian-Fraenkisch
Dialect

- 1997 Live radio broadcast of readings of poetry in the Carolingian-Fraenkisch Dialect
- 1994 Monica's *Waltz* by G. C. Menotti
Live radio broadcast on Limburger Radio Maastricht (the Netherlands)

CHORAL CONDUCTING & CHORAL WORKSHOPS

- 2014 *Blossoming Voices* workshop for singers organized by the Music Academy of the German Speaking Community (Belgium) with meditation CD for singers.
- 2001 - 2003 Conductor of the choir *Koeniglicher Handwerker Verein Raeren* (Belgium)
- 2000 - 2002 Conductor of the choir *Chorale Francophone de La Calamine* (Belgium)
- 1998 - 2000 Regular vocal training workshops for choirs in Liège and Wanne (Belgium), University Choir
- 1990 - 1995 Active member of the board of the children's choir *Les Colibris*, Kelmis (Belgium)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS)
New York Singing Teacher Association (NYSTA)
College Music Society (CMS)
Bundesverband Deutscher Gesangspädagogen (BDG)
Belgian Voice Teacher Association (EVTA-BE)

LANGUAGES

French, German & Carolingian-Fraenkisch Dialect (native competence)
English (fluency)
Italian, Dutch & Bulgarian (working knowledge)
Russian, Czech & Spanish (diction knowledge)