

Bettina Ranch

Mezzo

orlob.net · 10.09.2025

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Biography

Bettina Ranch was born in Berlin and initially studied violin before turning her attention entirely to singing. Since the 2016/17 season, she has been a permanent member of the ensemble at the Aalto Theater Essen, where she has built up an impressive repertoire with a wide range of roles, including Carmen, Fricka (Die Walküre), Adalgisa (Norma), Maddalena (Rigoletto), Fenena (Nabucco), Dorabella (Così fan tutte), Annina (Der Rosenkavalier), Adelaide (Arabella), La Zia Principessa and La Frugola in Puccini's Il Trittico, the title role in Gluck's Orfeo ed Euridice and Cain in Scarlatti's Cain and Abel. She is currently being mentored by singing teacher Caroline Merz.

In recent years, she has made a deliberate shift towards the dramatic repertoire. She has sung Brangäne (Tristan und Isolde), Amneris (Aida) and Preziosilla (Forza del Destino), among others, and made her role debut as Kundry in Wagner's Parsifal in the 2024/25 season. For her impressive performance in this role in Roland Schwab's new production at the Aalto Theater Essen, she is currently nominated for the German Theatre Prize DER FAUST 2025 in the category 'Best Actress in Musical Theatre'. The award ceremony will take place in Stuttgart in autumn 2025. In the summer of 2024, she also appeared as Fricka in Rheingold on a guest performance tour in Beijing (director: Stefano Poda, musical director: Lü Jia). At the end of the 2024/25 season, she made a guest appearance at the Shanghai Grand Theatre as Brangäne in Roland Schwab's Bayreuth Festival production of Tristan und Isolde.

Bettina Ranch has also appeared at other renowned opera houses such as the Staatsoper Unter den Linden Berlin, the Deutsche Oper Berlin, the Komische Oper Berlin, the Oper Köln, the Staatsoper Hamburg, the Grand Théâtre de la Ville de Luxembourg and the Nederlandse Opera Amsterdam.

In the concert field, Bettina Ranch impresses with a wide-ranging repertoire that extends from Baroque to modern. This includes Mozart's great masses, Bach's Passions and the Mass in B minor, Handel's Messiah, Beethoven's Missa solemnis, Mendelssohn's Elijah and Lobgesang, Schumann's Das Paradies und die Peri, Verdi's Requiem, Dvořák's Stabat Mater, Bruckner's Te Deum, Wagner's Wesendonck Lieder, and numerous works by Gustav Mahler, Franz Schmidt, and Luigi Nono (Il canto sospeso ? debut at the Salzburg Festival). She has worked with ensembles such as the Hamburg Philharmonic State Orchestra, the International Bach Academy Stuttgart, the Dresden Philharmonic, the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, the SWR Symphony Orchestra, the German Symphony Orchestra

Berlin, the Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg, the RTVE Radio Symphony Orchestra Madrid and other renowned orchestras. She has worked with conductors such as Hartmut Haenchen, Markus Poschner, Simone Young, Tomá? Netopil, Claus Peter Flor, Helmuth Rilling, Rinaldo Alessandrini, Rubén Dubrovsky, Hansjörg Albrecht, Paul Goodwin, Christopher Moulds, Peter Rundel, Michael Sanderling, Marc Albrecht, Andrey Boreyko, Erik Nielsen, Roland Kluttig, Krzysztof Urbanski, Christoph König and Ivor Bolton.

More recently, she sang Mahler's 8th Symphony (Mulier Samaritana) in Milan Cathedral and again with the Orchestra Sinfonica e Coro Sinfonico di Milano. Other highlights included Mozart's Requiem and Mahler's 2nd Symphony at the Auditorium in Milan and her house debut at the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg.

Numerous CD productions document Bettina Ranch's artistic work: Das Buch mit sieben Siegeln by Franz Schmidt (Oehms Classics) with the Hamburg Philharmonic Orchestra under Simone Young, Haydn's Il ritorno di Tobia (Sony Classics) with the Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg under Ivor Bolton, and Mahler's 2nd and 3rd Symphonies (Oehms Classics, 2022 and 2023) under Tomá? Netopil.

In the 2025/26 season, Bettina Ranch will appear as Fricka in the new RING at the Cologne Opera under the baton of Marc Albrecht and directed by Paul-Georg Dittrich. She will return to the Aalto Theatre in Essen for another role debut as Gertrud in Hänsel und Gretel before returning to Cologne for the premiere of Die Walküre as Fricka. In April 2026, she will once again sing Kundry in the revival Parsifal in Essen. She will also sing Santuzza in Pietro Mascagni's Cavalleria Rusticana for the first time in concert with the Kiel Philharmonic Orchestra before concluding the season with the Verdi Requiem in another symphony concert under Andrea Sanguineti and the Essen Philharmonic Orchestra.
