

The Austrian mezzosoprano Astrid Monika Hofer, is an extremely versatile singer whose repertoire ranges in opera, oratorio and concert, from early music to classical and romantic to contemporary works.

Their aim is to breathe life into any work or person portrayed through expression, musicality and mutability, and to give the music the necessary authenticity. Her substantial mezzo-soprano is praised for her vocal expressiveness, text intelligibility and warm vocal sound.

After graduating with distinction from the Mozarteum Salzburg, she attended master classes with Thomas Quasthoff, Thomas Hampson, Christa Ludwig and Brigitte Fassbaender. She made her stage debut in the opera Daphne by Richard Strauss at the small Festspielhaus Salzburg. The following year she made her debut at the Salzburg Festival, where she returned in Jenufa, The Egyptian Helena, in 2006 as Zephyrus in Mozart's Apollo et Hyacinthus, and for Alban Berg's Lulu in 2010. Other opera productions have taken her to the theatres in Salzburg, Klagenfurt, Linz, Regensburg, Passau, Vienna, the Estates Theatre in Prague, the Richard Wagner Festival in Wels, the Bregenz Festival and the Amsterdam Opera.

She has won prizes at several international competitions, including the Mozart Competition in Salzburg, "Debut in Merano" and the 9th International Johannes Brahms Competition, and has been awarded the Hanna Ludwig Prize. Her repertoire includes many Mozart roles such as Dorabella (*Così fan tutte*), Ramiro (*La finta giardiniera*), Wagner roles such as Adriano (*Rienzi*) and Fricka (*Valkyrie*) as well as Czipra (*The Gypsy Baron*) Prince Orlofsky (*Die Fledermaus*), Hänsel (*Hänsel and Gretel*) and Carmen (*Carmen*). She enjoyed great success in the Benjamin Britton operas *Albert Herring* as Nancy and in the Austrian premiere of the opera *Owen Wingrave* as Kate. In 2016 she took part in the Austrian premiere of the opera *Brokeback Mountain* by the American contemporary composer Charles Wourinen.

As a soloist she performed in a varied repertoire in concert repertoire such as Mozart's *Requiem*, *Vedirequiem*, Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*, *St. Matthew Passion* as well as numerous masses and song recitals.

She has worked with renowned conductors such as Ivor Bolton, Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Fabio Luisi, Howard Arman, Johannes Wildner, Ralf Weikert and Marc Albrecht. She has also worked with well-known directors such as Christine Mielitz, Bob Swaim, Nicola Raab, Claus Guth, John Dew, Vera Nemirowa, Stephen Medcalf, Jacopo Spirei, Tatjana Gürbaca, Doris Dörrie, Heinz Lukas Kindermann, Pet Halmen and Willy Decker.