

## The Team



**Professor Cheryl Studer:** Technical guidance & Interpretation

With a wonderful sense of fun and ease the internationally renowned soprano, Professor Cheryl Studer, (HfM, Würzburg) shares her accumulated knowledge and experience in the profession.

Cheryl Studer is an Opera singer of renown at home, world wide, on the operatic stage, and she shares and advises talented emerging singers.

American soprano Cheryl Studer studied both piano and viola, graduating from Interlochen Arts Academy. Her talent was noticed by Leonard Bernstein, and a scholarship to Tanglewood was awarded to her (1975-1977) studying with Phyllis Curtin. Cheryl made her debut there in 1976 in Bach's St. Matthew Passion with the Boston Symphony Orchestra under Seiji Ozawa.

1979 Cheryl Studer attended the Franz-Schubert-Institut, Baden bei Wien, Austria, and began her studies with Hans Hotter in Munich.

1980 saw Cheryl gain a place at the Bavarian State Opera, Opera Studio, where she sang comprimario roles. 1982-1984 she was engaged in Staatstheater Darmstadt and as a guest at the Deutsche Oper, Berlin. 1984-1986 Cheryl Studer caught the operatic-world's attention in 1985 when she sang Elisabeth (Tannhäuser) at the Bayreuth Festival under Giuseppe Sinopoli and Wolfgang Wagner. 1989 Cheryl made her debut as Chrysothemis at the Salzburg Festival. Cheryl Studer celebrates her 43rd year of professional singing and a recent role debut was Gertrud (Hänsel und Gretel) and in Carousel, Basel 2017.

Cheryl Studer has collaborated with pianists such as Irwin Gage and Jonathan Alder.

She has appeared extensively throughout Europe, the USA and Asia.

Cheryl Studer has been the recipient of numerous awards including the 1977 High Fidelity/Musical America Prize, the International Classical Music Award in the category Best Female Singer of the Year 1993 and the Wilhelm Furtwaengler Prize.

She has numerous recordings documenting her artistry and received the Grand Prix du Disque-Prix Maria Callas, the Orphée d' Or, the Cannes Classical Awards and two Grammys.

Since October 2003 Cheryl Studer has a Professorship at the „Hochschule für Musik“, Würzburg. She is regularly invited to give Masterclasses internationally (USA, South Korea, China, Russia and throughout Europe) and is often jury member for international voice competitions. In 2010 Cheryl Studer made her professional stage directing debut with the Bavarian Chamber Opera Company with "Il barbiere di Siviglia"/ Rossini. Future plans as a stage director include various projects for the North Aegean Music Festival. Since 2014 she has been in the Team of the Opera Audition Training Programme at the Summer University of the Arts, Berlin.



**Professor Gerd Uecker:** Detailed Coach, Interpretation Lecturer

A giant in the German Operatic world, having been Intendant at both Munich and Dresden Opera Houses for many years, Professor Gerd Uecker, commands enormous respect in the profession. Author and lecturer of repute. He is on many official Music boards as Chairman & Jury member of numerous competitions.

1964: studied at HfM, Munich: Piano and Conducting.

1969: Repetiteur at the Opera house, Cologne;

1973 – 1979 : GMD/Conductor Stadtstheater, Passau;

1979 – 1988 Bavarian State Opera, Studienleiter

1988/89 : Artistic Director and Assistant to the Director 1993-2000 Director/ Intendant at the **Bavarian State Opera, Munich.**

2000 - 2010 Director/ Intendant at the **Semperoper, Dresden**

2005 – 2010 Chairman of the "Deutschsprachige Opernkonferenz";

2010 - Awarded the "Dänisches Ritterkreuz des Danneborgordens".

2011 : President of the "Bundeswettbewerb Gesang Berlin".

Gerd Uecker holds many

### **Teaching posts:**

1980 - Venice, Italy: Fondazione Levi

1984-1986 - Peking: Academy of Music

**Guest Professorship** – Bayerische Theaterakademie, Munich

HfM, & „Carl Maria von Weber“, Dresden

Professor Uecker, sought after jury member for many Music Competitions.

**Masterclasses:** Since 2014 Berlin Summer University of the Arts

Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival.

European Academy, Montepulciano.

Mozarteum Sommer Akademy, Salzburg,

Istanbul, Japan (Tokyo, Kitakyushu) etc.

**Author/** Publications: amongst others „Opera Singer – Dream profession“

## **Professor Jonathan Alder:** Pianist & Coach



A love, for not only Classical Music, but also a deep connection and feeling for languages and the written word, whether beautiful poetry or inspired scripts. Over the years, Jonathan, working with communication through music & words has inspired young singers to delve into the depths of their own individual imagination and authentically communicate with the audience. Transcending themselves...

**Jonathan Alder** BA Cambridge, began his career in music as a boy soprano at Westminster Abbey, London. He went on to pursue studies in piano, horn, composition and singing (later as a counter-tenor) in Kings College, Cambridge & St. Pauls Cathedral, London. On completing his studies at Kings College, Cambridge he gained a place for Piano Accompaniment at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London, where he won the Overseas League Prize for Accompaniment.

Over the years Jonathan Alder has become an accompanist of International repute. He has regularly performed with artists such as Christa Ludwig, Lucia Popp, Placido Domingo, Hans Sotin, Francisco Araiza, Gwyneth Jones, Pierre Fournier und Viktor Tretjakow. It was in Japan, 2004, where Jonathan first accompanied Cheryl Studer and has been closely associated with her ever since. Jonathan has accompanied numerous Masterclasses in particular for singers with Pierre Bernac, Mario del Monaco and Herbert von Karajan, Ingrid Bjöner, Galina Visnevakya, He was engaged as repetiteur for five years at the Deutsche Oper, Berlin.

Concert engagements have taken Jonathan throughout Europe, Asia and America. He has been sought after for Festival appearances, performing at Baden-Baden, Verona, Cervantino (Mexico), Salzburg, and Hohenems amongst others. Numerous Radio and CD recordings testify to his reputation. Jonathan travels regularly to Asia for concert tours and to give masterclasses, including together with Cheryl Studer in 2010 in Korea.

In 1989 he was offered a Professorship for Lied at the Mozarteum in Salzburg and in 1993 at the Universität der Künste, Berlin.

Since 1989 Jonathan Alder has performed regularly with the Berlin Philharmonic, not only with Sir Simon Rattle but also for 13 years closely with Claudio Abbado. Here he accompanied many auditions and piano rehearsals with the conductors. This work took him also regularly to the Salzburg Festival and in the recent years to the Baden Baden Festival.

Since 2011 Jonathan has worked closely with Philip Hereweghes Collegium Vocale, Ghent. As well he has accompanied numerous Voice Competitions, Neue Stimmen (Gütersloh) Vinas (Barcelona) BWG (Berlin) Jugend Musiziert, where he has also been a jury member too. Now retired from the UdK, many new ventures are underway e.g. Projects at the Staatsoper and with the Staatskapelle, Berlin, Masterclasses in Majorca and Italy, and a new Project for the EU.

He and Janice currently live in Berlin – the Dream-Team! Since 2014 Masterclasses have been offered together with Cheryl Studer, Prof Gerd Uecker and the Alders. These have been given at the Berlin Summer University of the Arts (based in the UdK, Berlin) Programme, and been widely acclaimed.



**Janice Alder-Alford:** Mezzo-Soprano, Vocal Coach, Body & Breath Work, Personality & Relaxation Training, Course Administration

**Vocal Training:** Janice is passionate about and blossoms with Vocal Training, She loves teaching Technique, it inspires her. It is her good fortune to have learnt with some of the best international opera singers of our era, Christa Ludwig, Janet Baker, Giulietta Simionato, Brigitte Fassbender and Hannelore Kuhse (Martinsen-Lohmann School) they gave her insights, understanding and empathy over the years to train singers in a whole Body, Mind and Soul experience. Her motto is "Only Connect".

Janice Alder-Alford, Mezzo Soprano, A.R.C.M began her formal music studies with Ruth Packer (also the teacher of Gwyneth Jones) at the Royal College of Music, London. Later, after winning a scholarship to Vienna, she then studied with Christa Ludwig and Erik Werba. During her studies Janice also attended Masterclasses with Janet Baker, Pierre Bernac, Mario del Monaco, Hannelore Kuhse and Guilietta Simionato. She attended a young artist program set up by Herbert von Karajan, meeting 3 times a year in Masterclasses, Salzburg offered both Janice and Jonathan places.

Amongst her many prizes & scholarships she won a Prize at just 23 years in the ARD Competition in Munich and also at the Concours International de Chant de Paris. A year later Janice made her debut at the Vienna State Opera, just 24 years of age. Whilst at the Vienna State Opera, Janice performed many comprimario roles including Bersi in a new production of Andre Chenier with Placido Domingo, Flora (La Traviata), Magd (Jenufa), Kartenaufschlägerin (Arabella), Waltraute (Die Walküre).

Contracts followed for the Salzburg Festival and also with Decca for a recording of Bellini's Norma with Mirella Freni and Renata Scotto. Janice's extensive Opera Repertoire went on to include Octavian, Rosina, Brangaene, Amneris and Carmen for numerous Opera Companies including Dortmund, Straßbourg, Brno, Maastricht and Paris.

Over the years Janice has worked with producers such as John Dew, Phillip Sanjust and Jean Claude Martinoty and conductors including Sir David Willcocks, Nello Santi, Horst Stein and Sir Charles Mackerras.

Janice enjoyed the diversity available as a mezzo, with an extensive concert repertoire as well as the operatic roles she, performed regularly such major works as Verdi Requiem, Elgar Dream of Gerontius, J. S. Bach Matthew & John Passions, in many of the world's major concert halls such as the Royal Albert Hall, the Purcell Room, and Wigmore Hall, London, Musik Verein, Vienna, and the Philharmonie and Konzerthaus in Berlin. Janice's Recital repertoire, also extensive, was particularly due to her work with Christa Ludwig. After a serious riding accident curtailed her stage career, Janice based herself primarily in Berlin, where her rich understanding of the singers' professional life has made her a sought after voice teacher. Together with her husband, Jonathan Alder, Janice has given Masterclasses for over 15 years. Most recently Janice has been engaged by the Berlin Philharmonic Akademisten to lead Workshops Singing with your Instrument, Body/Breathwork, and Stress Management for Artists. Janice worked on the board for the German National Singing Competition, BWG, for 6 years. There she met Prof. Gerd Uecker and both she and Jonathan began their close collaboration with Gerd Uecker, holding Workshops and Masterclasses working with young talented singers.

**Bernhard Schroeder:** Opera Direktor, Agent, Improvisation & Gesture Presentation work, Marketing



Bernhard has been working in the Theatre profession for over 20 years. Not only as a Producer, but also as an Opera Director in Opera Houses in Germany and Internationally. In 1990 he moved to Berlin and founded his company: "Artists Consulting" and later a co-operation with G&S Management.

Bernhard studied Music, Philosophy & Literature at University. Since 2003 he has also been a consultant for various colleges.

**Kristin Ebner:** Dramatic Soprano, Marketing & German text & pronunciation Coaching, Course Administration



Kristin studied: **History of Arts/ Comparative Literature** in German, English, French, Italian, **Cultural studies & Management** and has extensive work experience in this area. Later she turned her attention to **Vocal studies and Teaching** (Dipl. Vocal Pedagogy/Artistic Diploma/ M.A. Opera; Muho Münster, HfM Detmold, UdK Berlin).

2018 saw her successfully debut as Aida in Halle and be engaged to sing Elisabetta (Don Carlos) in Gent. We are fortunate in between her performances she invests time in the business side helping younger singers with the "Business" of Opera. She is also active in the area of Public Relations, EU- Fundraising & Project Management,

### **Repetitors:**

**Alessandro Palumbo:** Pianist/Conductor/Coach (Languages Italian/English/German)

**Hana Lee:** Pianist/ Coach ( Languages, Spanish/Italian/English/French/German)

**Jisung Kim:** Pianist/Coach (Manhattan school of Music(Languages Eng/German/Korean)