

## KATHARINA RIKUS - VITA

### MEZZOSOPRANO

The Swiss Contralto Katharina Rikus was born in Liestal, being the daughter of Klaus Huber, composer, and Susanne Huber, flutist. She studied singing at the "Musikakademie Basel", took the Opera Course at the "Musikhochschule Saarbrücken" and studied in Rome with Jolanda Magnoni. She furthered her studies with Prof. Gloria Davy at the Indiana University, Bloomington (USA). She was awarded various scholarships and prizes, among others the "Studienpreis des Schweizer Tonkünstlervereins" and a scholarship of the "Richard-Wagner-Verband". For three years she was a member of the "Kammeroper Frankfurt", where she performed leading parts in early operas from G.F.Händel, J.Haydn, W.A.Mozart and G.Rossini. With her "Galatea" from "Acis and Galatea" (G.F.Händel) she guested in Florence.

She appeared in several opera productions at the "Bremer Theater", performed at the "Festspielhaus Baden-Baden" (Parsifal) and sung the role of "Antigone" in the creation of Younghi Pagh-Paan's Opera "Mondschaten" at the "Staatstheater Stuttgart". With musicians of the "Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie" she sang "Kindertotenlieder" from G.Mahler and "Wesendoncklieder" from R.Wagner. Besides the classical concert repertory Katharina Rikus concentrates on the performing of contemporary music: Her concerts, radio broadcasts and first performances of new works make her sing in the major centres of Europe. Within the last years Katharina Rikus was performing in many festivals for contemporary music pieces like "Pierrot lunaire" (A. Schönberg), "Folk Songs" (L. Berio), "Ancient Voices of children" (G. Crumb), "Le marteau sans maître" (P. Boulez) and "Die Seele muss vom Reittier steigen" (K. Huber). During her career she worked with artists like Kent Nagano, Nikolaus Lehnhoff, Lucas Vis and the Arditti-Quartett. Since 1997 Katharina Rikus runs a class at the "Hochschule für Künste" / Bremen (Germany) and gives masterclasses in Holland and Switzerland.