

Mayan Rachel Goldenfeld, Soprano – Full Biography

Italian-Israeli soprano Mayan Rachel Goldenfeld is a versatile and accomplished singer based in Bielefeld, Germany, where she has been engaged as a soloist since the 2023/24 season. She performs regularly on both the opera stage and in theater productions, showcasing her diverse vocal range and artistic depth.

Mayan has had the privilege of performing under the baton of esteemed conductors such as Sigiswald Kuijken, Alexander Kalajdzic, Werner Ehrhardt, Michael Hofstetter, Michael Schneider, and Andrea de Carlo. She has collaborated with prominent ensembles including La Petite Bande, I Gemelli, the Bielefelder Philharmoniker, Neumeyer Consort, HIP Frankfurt, and the Camerata Villa Musica. Her performances have taken her to some of Europe's most prestigious venues, including the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Gewandhaus Leipzig, Opera National Bordeaux, the Maifestspiele at Staatstheater Wiesbaden, Schwetzingen Festspiele, Konzerthaus Blaibach, Grandezze & Meraviglie Festival, and the Concerts d'Automne in Tours, among others.

Her operatic repertoire spans from Baroque to contemporary works, with notable roles such as Drusilla, Amore, and Damigella in *L'incoronazione di Poppea*; Minerva in *Il Ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria*; Vagus in *Juditha Triumphans*; Nanetta in *Falstaff*; Frasquita in *Carmen*; Saint Marguerite in Honegger's *Jeanne d'Arc au Bûcher*; Blumenmädchen in *Parsifal*; Natalia in Leoncavallo's *Zazà*; Lenio in Martinů's *The Greek Passion*; Zerlina in *Don Giovanni*; Soeur Constance in *Dialogues des Carmélites*; the title role in *Cendrillon*; and both the Dew Fairy and Sandman in *Hansel und Gretel*.

A few of her standout performances include her solo work in Bach's *Matthäuspassion* and as Despina in *Così fan tutte* at the Concertgebouw Amsterdam with La Petite Bande. She also played the female lead in the world premiere of Marc L. Vögler's *At Your Doorstep*, originated the role of Zagorka in Peter Kastenmüller's adaptation of Sasa Stanisić's novel *Herkunft*, and portrayed Erice in Cavalli's *L'Ormindo* at the Maifestspiele Wiesbaden. Other highlights include her performances as the title role in Stradella's *La Circe* at Teatro Torlonia in Rome, Sangaride in Lully's *Atys* with Akademie Versailles, and Galatea in *Acis and Galatea* with Summer Opera Tel Aviv. Mayan also debuted at the Schwetzingen Festspiele, performing scenes from Jommelli's *Didone Abbandonata*, which were broadcast live by SWR2.

In 2022, Mayan co-founded the early music duo *Sull'onde* with harpsichordist Tung Han Hu. The duo won the prestigious Bärenreiter Prize at the 2022 Handel Competition in Göttingen, an achievement that led to Mayan being named a Bärenreiter Jubilee Ambassador. Her accolades also include being a finalist at the Frouville International Baroque Competition, a prize winner at the Kammeroper Schloss Rheinsberg competition, and the recipient of multiple honors such as the Brooklyn College Theater and Performance Award, 1st prize at the Buchmann-Mehta Vocal Competition, the Berlin Song Festival Merit Scholarship, the AICF Excellence Scholarship, and the Buchman-Heiman Scholarship.

Mayan has further honed her craft by participating in numerous international masterclasses. She has trained under renowned artists such as Vivica Genaux, Pedro Memelsdorff, Gemma Bertagnoli, Chen Reiss, Sigiswald Kuijken, Andreas Scholl, Antonio Frigé, Kevin Murphy, Martin Katz, Sophie Daneman, Caroline Dowdle, Graham Johnson, Margo Garrett, and Lucy Shelton.

She holds a Master of Music degree from the Brooklyn College Conservatory, where she studied with Patricia McCaffery, and a Bachelor of Music degree from the Buchmann-Mehta School of Music, under the guidance of Efrat Ben Nun. Most recently, she graduated from the first Advanced Certificate Program in Early Music at the Universität der Künste Berlin, where she studied with Prof. Doerthe Maria Sandmann.