

## *Karin van Arkel*

*Soprano*

*short biography*



### **1987-1995**

Karin van Arkel first studied dance and theatre at the art academies of Amsterdam and Utrecht. During this period she has been for some time a member of the modern dance company 'Sodemieterop' of Hans Tuerlings; with this group she had performances in Moscow and Antwerp (a.o), and in the Netherlands in a production for the Holland Festival.

Apart from being a dancer she worked as assistant director and souffléuse at several theatre productions.

From 1993 Karin studied solo singing in the preparatory class of the Royal Conservatory in The Hague.

### **1995-2005**

#### ***Music Academy***

From 1995 Karin has been studying solo singing at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague. Her teachers were: Lenie van den Heuvel, Rita Dams, Diane Forlano and Barbara Pearson. In 1999 she got her bachelor degree; Januar 2002 she did her final exam, and got the master degree.

During her education Karin was selected for several masterclasses, with - among others - Christina Deutekom, Elly Ameling, Graham Clark and Meinard Kraak.

In a performance of the opera *Albert Herring* of Benjamin Britten by De Nieuwe Opera Academie (opera studio of the Music Academies of Amsterdam and The Hague) she sang the role of Lady Billows (director: Alexander Oliver; conductor: Paul McCreesh).

She performed the role of Dido in *Dido and Aeneas* of Purcell (conductor: Daniel Salbert).

#### ***Master Classes***

In 1998, 1999 and 2000 Karin was a participant of the Gregynog Master Classes (vocal course during the Gregynog Music Festival in Wales) ; she took lessons with Diane Forlano and Barbara Pearson.

In 2000 she participated in the belcanto-course of Dame Joan Sutherland and Richard Bonyngé at the Britten Pears School of Music in Aldeburgh, England.

In 2001 she participated in a master class about Schoenberg with Leonard Stein.

In 2004 she participated in the Master Classes of the International Vocal Arts Institute (organized by the Metropolitan Opera of New York City) in Tel Aviv; she took lessons with Mignon Dunn and Joan Dornemann (among others).

Also in 2004 she took part in master classes by Henk Smit, organized by the Holland Music Sessions.

### ***Opera and Operetta***

1996 - 2000 Karin has been a member of the Operetta Company 'Thalia' in Amsterdam. She sang several solo parts there, such as:

- Constance (The Sorcerer, Gilbert & Sullivan)
- Ciboletta (Eine Nacht in Venedig, Johann Strauss)
- Angelina (Trial by Jury, Gilbert & Sullivan)
- Diana (Orpheus aux Enfers, Jacques Offenbach)
- Alexius (L'île de Tulipatan, Jacques Offenbach)
- Niklaus en La Voix (Les Contes d'Hoffman, Offenbach)

In January 2001 she performed the role of Lady Billows in the opera Albert Herring of Benjamin Britten - a production of De Nieuwe Opera Academie (opera studio of the Music Academies of Amsterdam and The Hague); director: Alexander Oliver; conductor: Paul McCreesh.

June 2001 she sang the role of Rosalinde in Die Fledermaus of Johann Strauss (blue bottle productions). March 2003 she performed the same role again several times, in a production with the AUKSO Extended Chamber Orchestra from Katowice, conducted by Jan van Maanen.

In October 2001 she performed Dido in Dido and Aeneas of Purcell (in a production of the Royal Conservatory, conducted by Daniel Salbert).

June 2002 she sang the role of Annina in a performance of La Traviata of Verdi, with the Nederlands Promenade Orkest conducted by Johan van de Camp.

November 2003 she performed the role of Leonore in the Singspiel 'Fernando' van Franz Schubert (with the Chamber Orchestra Driebergen; conductor: Albert van Eeghen).

### ***Oratorium***

June 2001 Karin sang the soprano solo parts of the Petite Messe Solenne of Rossini, in a performance of the piece with The British Choir conducted by Malcolm Davies.

June 2002 she performed with the same ensemble and conductor the following works:

- Britten, Rejoice in the Lamb
- Ramirez, Missa Criolla
- Vivaldi, Gloria

April 2003 she sang the soprano solo parts in a performance of the Gloria of Poulenc, in a concert in De Vereeniging in Nijmegen, with the student choir and student orchestra of the Nijmegen University, conducted by Quentin Clare.

June 2004 she performed the Magnificat of John Rutter and the Magnificat of Pergolesi with The British Choir, conducted by Malcolm Davies.

### ***Lied, Chamber Music***

Karin van Arkel can be regularly heard in opera recitals like the one in September 2003 with the Opera Choir Haarlem conducted by Rutger van Leyden, and November 2003 in a series of concerts with the Operetta Company Servus conducted by Peter van Beijnum. Autumn 2004 she performed in an opera concert with Vereniging Bossche Opera, conducted by Pieter Cox.

With the pianist Wim Voogd Karin has formed a duo: "Duo Deco". Duo Deco gives recitals with music composed around 1900 (like in november 2003 in the Bethaniënklooster in Amsterdam with compositions of Debussy, Ravel, Schoenberg and Berg). Karin is also working with the pianist and organist Wijnand van Klaveren.

She works as a soloist with the following ensembles:

- woodwind ensemble 'Cobla La Principal d'Amsterdam' (catalonian music). On april 7, 2004 she performed with this ensemble (conducted by Stephan Pas) in the big hall of the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam: with this ensemble she also made CD-recordings.
- Delphi Ensemble; with this ensemble she performed opera-arias of Puccini
- Ensemble Contours; with this ensemble she performed contemporary music.

In 2001 Karin performed the *Zwei Lieder nach Texten von Paul Celan* of Martijn Hooning, with an ensemble conducted by Harry Sparnaay. In 2002 a second performance followed, conducted by Otto Tausk.