

## Biografie/ Biography/ Biographie

The singer and actress Lisenka Milène Kirkcaldy from Düsseldorf is of German-French, Scottish origin.

Born as a grandniece of the Hollywood film actor couple Rosemary Kirkcaldy and Joss Ackland, she spent half her childhood in Germany and the United Kingdom.

Her passion for music and the stage was awakened at an early age. She subsequently received singing and piano lessons and a dance scholarship, as well as an art scholarship from the country's scholarship programme for gifted youths.



After graduating from artistic high school, she studied at the Stuttgart University of Music and Performing Arts, the Robert Schumann Music Academy in Düsseldorf and the Film Academy of Baden-Württemberg.

Since graduating, she performed her debut in radio and television, as well as on the theatre and opera stage at the State Theatre in Stuttgart and Baden-Baden. She likewise continued to perform solo concerts.

Her first opera and theatre roles include Wanda in the Operetta Die Großherzogin von Gerolstein, Das Stubenmädchen in Schnitzler's Reigen, Alice in the World Premiere of Der Zoo directed by Hasko Weber at the Staatstheater Stuttgart, Miss Forsythe in a music theatre production of Der Tod eines Handlungsreisenden directed by Claudia Beier, and Sugar - Some like it hot at the Theater Baden-Baden.

At the same time, she received a scholarship from the Yehudi Menuhin Foundation for her solo concert series of privileged young artists, and an invitation to the European Operetta Duet Competition. Further accolades for roles she took on in theatre productions followed, including the Press Prize for her role of Marie in the Music Theatre production of Woyzeck. She further appeared on stage as Susan Parks in Pitman Painters directed by Jan Steinbach, Agnes in the contemporary production of Bärfus Die Probe and Marja Antonowna in Gogol's Der Revisor.

After initial theatre engagements and engagements as spokeswoman for radio and television in southern and northern Germany, including SWR and Arte, WDR and ZDF, she took up opera engagements as a guest singer at theatres not distant from her original residence in Düsseldorf, in addition to her second location in Berlin.

Here she sang at the Bonn Opera House and the Krefeld Opera, as well as Mönchengladbach Opera House. She performed in La Cage aux Folles under the direction of John Dew, followed by the part of Helena Landless in The Mystery of Edwin Drood and the part of Chava in Bock's Anatevka under the direction of Karl Absenger. The individual productions have perceived highly well reception by the press and the audience over several seasons and have been entered separately in the Yearbook of the Bühnengenossenschaft.

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This was followed by a Northern Tour en croisière through Finland, Sweden and Norway to St. Petersburg, where Kirkcaldy took over the characters of Fantine and Cosette in Les Misérables under the direction of Götz Hellriegel, and the part of Christine Daaé with scenes from Phantom of the Opera.

From Düsseldorf and Berlin, she tours with multilingual and genre-spanning solo classic and chanson music programmes throughout Germany, as well as internationally.

Kirkcaldy also enjoys considerable popularity as a concert singer, most recently by singing works by Handel, Dowland and Celtic art songs with a harp, as well as in the Bernstein production of Mass at the Forum of Young Solists Stuttgart as a vocal soloist.

Another focus is on benefit obligations, not least through scholarship experience of the Yehudi Menuhin association.

Her current album E.e.F.f.- La voix is currently being released by her label.

Links to the person:

[www.lisenka-kirkcaldy.com](http://www.lisenka-kirkcaldy.com)

### **News, recent projects:**

- Germany-wide and international booking, solo classical music and chanson concert series [www.lisenka-kirkcaldy.com](http://www.lisenka-kirkcaldy.com)
- 2021 My Love is the Ocean, Guest performance, Schlossfestspiele Ettlingen
- 2021 Kultursommer, Summer Open Air Concerts, supported by Cultural Commission Northrhine-Westfalia, Düsseldorf
- 2021 Scholarship of the Ministry of Culture and Science
- 2020/21 Art Project, Music Association, Symphony Orchestra, Tonhalle Düsseldorf, Honored by the Opus Classic Prize, supported by the Robert Schumann Society, the International Mendelssohn Bartholdy Institute
- 2020 Arts Scholarship of the Ministry of Arts, Northrhine-Westfalia
- 2019 Art Project, Concertrow, Cultural Commission Northrhine-Westfalia,
- since 2016 guest singer soloist, summer open air festival row, Northrhine-Westfalia, Gala Concerts
- 2018 North tour with Best of Les Misérables, Phantom of the Opera en croisière through Sweden, Finland, Norway, St. Petersburg
- 2018 The Mass, A Theatre Piece for Singers, Players and Dancers, Leonard Bernstein, Forum Junge Solisten, Stuttgart, solo soprano
- 2016/17 Anatevka, Jerry Bock, Bonn Opera, role of Chava
- 2015/16 The Mystery of Edwin Drood, Krefeld Opera, Mönchengladbach, part of Helena

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Landless

- 2013/2014 Cage aux Folles, Bonn Opera