Sarah Aristidou
Soprano

French-Cypriot soprano Sarah Aristidou was a member of the International Opera Studio of Berlin’s Staatsoper Unter den Linden through the 2018/19 season, during which time her roles included Première Servante de Dircé in Cherubini’s *Médée* under Daniel Barenboim and Grande Prêtresse de Diane/Une Matelote in Rameau’s *Hippolyte et Aricie* under Sir Simon Rattle, alongside Papagena (*Die* Zauberflöte) and Taumännchen (*Hänsel und Gretel*).

Aristidou’s professional début came in 2016 as Offenbach’s Eurydice (*Orphée aux enfers*) at the Angers Nantes Opéra, where she was immediately reinvited as part of Moshe Leiser & Patrice Caurier’s new production of *L’incoronazione di Poppea* under the baton of Gianluca Capuano. She has since twice been nominated as “Best Newcomer” in the Opernwelt Yearly Reviews for her interpretations of Franziska in Christian Jost’s *Die arabische Nacht* (2016) and as Soprano Coloratura in Claude Vivier’s *Kopernikus* (2019).

Sarah created the role of Shoko in the world premiere of Thomas Larcher’s *Das Jagdgewehr* at the Bregenzer Festspiele (with Ensemble Modern and Michael Boder) followed by performances at Aldeburgh Festival (Knussen Chamber Orchestra under Ryan Wigglesworth) to unanimous critical acclaim, *“captur[ing] the adolescent rage of Shoko while mastering Larcher’s virtuosic demands.”* (Financial Times, August 2018). Some other recent performance highlights include a début with the Berliner Philharmoniker (A “Late Night” with Edgard Varèse, conducted by François-Xavier Roth), Maïma (Offenbach’s *Barkouf*) at Oper Köln, La Vierge in Honneger’s *Jeanne d'Arc au bûcher* with the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra, Soprano (*Into the Little Hill*) with the Münchener Kammerorchester, a concert with the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks under Matthias Pintscher and St. John’s Passion, also with François-Xavier Roth, at Kölner Philharmonie with the Gürzenich Orchestra.

Compositions specially written for Sarah Aristidou include Aribert Reimann’s *Cinq fragments* *lyriques* (performed at Berliner Philharmonie with the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin and Robin Ticciati) and Jörg Widmann’s *Labyrinth IV* (premiered by the Boulez Ensemble, conducted by Daniel Barenboim).

Current season plans include a début at Dutch National Opera in *Das Jagdgewehr*, Feldman’s *Neither* at Salzburger Festspiele under Ilan Volkov, and Nielsen’s Symphony No. 3 with Alan Gilbert at the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival.