

## **Biography English LONG:**

**Sarah Nemtsov** was born in Oldenburg in 1980 and studied composition in Hannover and Berlin with Nigel Osborne, Johannes Schöllhorn and Walter Zimmermann, as well as oboe with Klaus Becker and Burkhard Glaetzner. She has received numerous awards and scholarships, including the Busoni Composition Prize of the Berlin Academy of the Arts, the Deutsche Musikautor\*innenpreis of the GEMA, the international RicordiLAB composition competition, or the Heidelberger Künstlerinnenpreis. She collaborates with renowned ensembles and orchestras (WDR Orchestra, Deutsches Sinfonieorchester, RSO Vienna, Ensemble Musikfabrik, Klangforum Wien, Ensemble Intercontemporain, Arditti quartet, ensemble modern, ensemble mosaik, Ensemble Adapter, Nickel ensemble, Meitar, Decoder ensemble, Neue Vocalsolisten Stuttgart, ensemble recherche, Basel Sinfonietta, Finnish Baroque orchestra etc.) and her works are performed at internationally renowned festivals - such as the Donaueschinger Musiktage, Darmstadt Summer Course, Wien modern, ECLAT, Ultraschall, Holland Festival, Musica, Bregenz Festival, Munich Biennale, Ruhrtriennale and many more.

Nemtsov's music captivates through sensitively sounded setups, through complex and energetic textures, interactions between acoustic instruments and electronics, as well as references to other arts and other media. In 2014, Sarah Nemtsov taught composition at Hochschule für Musik und Tanz Cologne, in 2018 she taught composition at Haifa University as a DAAD guest lecturer. She's regularly a tutor for composition at Darmstadt Summer Course (2021, 2023, 2025). In 2020, she was nominated for the Opus Klassik Prize in the category "Composer of the Year". In 2021, she was elected as a member of the Akademie der Künste (The Academy of Arts) Berlin as well as the Saxon Academy of the Arts. Since 2022, she is professor for composition at the University Mozarteum Salzburg, Austria. In 2025 she was awarded with the Heidelberger Künstlerinnenpreis and was composer in residence at Boston University.

Her catalogue includes more than 150 compositions in almost all genres. Since 2016 her works are published by Ricordi. Her highly acclaimed opera „SACRIFICE“ (2016) – premiered in March 2017 at Opera Halle – was described by *Die ZEIT* as a work in which „sound becomes space becomes time becomes reality.“ In 2022, at the festival Ruhrtriennale, her cycle „HAUS“ was staged at the turbine hall Bochum - „an unleashed ecstasy of sound that opens up spaces of association“ (*nmz*). Her opera „OPHELIA“ (2020-2021) with a libretto by Mirko Bonné was premiered in 2023 at Saarländisches Staatstheater – “an overwhelming music theatre, full of ideas and allusions, completely transcending borders”. Her tetralogy „TZIMTZUM“ for four soloists and orchestra was premiered in November 2023 with Nickel ensemble and WDR orchestra. Sarah Nemtsov's next opera – „WE“ (after Evgenij Zamyatins dystopian novel) for the Opera Dortmund – is to be premiered in May, 2026.

**[www.sarah-nemtsov.de](http://www.sarah-nemtsov.de)**

## **SHORT:**

**Sarah Nemtsov** was born in Oldenburg in 1980 and studied composition in Hannover and Berlin with Nigel Osborne, Johannes Schöllhorn and Walter Zimmermann. She has received numerous awards and scholarships, including the Busoni Composition Prize from the Berlin Academy of the Arts, the German Music Authors' Prize from GEMA, and won the international RicordiLAB composition competition. She collaborates with renowned ensembles and orchestras (HR-Sinfonieorchester, Deutsches Sinfonieorchester, ensemble modern, ensemble mosaik, Ensemble Adapter, Neue Vocalsolisten Stuttgart, ensemble recherche, Klangforum Wien, Ensemble Musikfabrik, Basel Sinfonietta etc.) and her works are performed at internationally renowned festivals such as the Donaueschinger Musiktage, Darmstadt Summer Course, Wien modern, ECLAT, Ultraschall, Holland Festival, Musica, Bregenz Festival, Munich Biennale and many more. Nemtsov's music is characterized by sensitively sounding structures, complex and energetic textures, musical layers, interactions between acoustic instruments and electronics, as well as references to other arts and other media. In 2014, Sarah Nemtsov taught composition at the Hochschule für Musik und Tanz in Cologne, and in 2018 she taught composition at the University of Haifa as a DAAD guest lecturer. She's a regular tutor for composition at the Darmstadt Summer Course. In 2020 she was nominated for the Opus Klassik Prize in the category "Composer of the Year". In 2021, she was elected as a member of the Akademie der Künste (The Academy of Arts) Berlin as well as the Saxon Academy of the Arts. Since 2022, she is professor for composition at the University Mozarteum Salzburg, Austria. In 2025 she was awarded with the Heidelberger Künstlerinnenpreis. Her catalog includes more than 150 compositions in almost all genres. Her works are published by Ricordi. DIE ZEIT wrote about her opera SACRIFICE (2016): "Sound becomes space, time becomes reality". Her opera OPHELIA (2020-2021) with a libretto by Mirko Bonné - premiered in May 2023 at the Saarländisches Staatstheater - has been described as "a shocking and overwhelming musical theater, full of ideas and allusions - completely transcending borders" (Opernwelt). Sarah Nemtsov's latest opera, WE (after Evgenij Zamyatin), will be premiered at the Dortmund Opera in 2026.