**BIOGRAPHY & HEADSHOT**

Anglo-Venezuelan soprano Sofia Kirwan-Baez spent most of her early life in France. She started playing the violin in El Sistema in Caracas, Venezuela. She later began piano studies, continuing on with both instruments in the Périgueux Conservatoire, where she also began her vocal tuition at the age of 16. At home in a diverse stylistic range of music spanning Renaissance to contemporary repertoire, she has created roles in operas by Marco Galvani (*Autopilot Saves Model S*) and Toby Young (*Witch!*). Other operatic roles have included Venus (*La Dafne*), Alisa (*Lucia di Lammermoor*), Juno (*The Fairy Queen),*Cis (*Albert Herring*), and the title role in Gilbert and Sullivan’s *Patience.*A seasoned choral musician, Sofia has performed with groups including Genesis Sixteen, St John’s College Chapel Choir, Schola Cantorum, and the BBC National Chorus of Wales. Her concert appearances have included Mahler’s Symphony No. 4, Handel’s *Messiah*, Britten’s *Rejoice in the Lamb,*Finzi’s *In Terra Pax*, Monteverdi’s *Vespers of 1610* and Vivaldi’s *Gloria*. Sofia holds a Bachelor’s degree in Music from St. John’s College, Oxford, during which time she studied with Kathryn Harries and Glenville Hargreaves. She completed her Master’s degree on a scholarship at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in the studio of Suzanne Murphy, where her studies were generously supported by Rotary International. She is currently the Publicity Manager for the National Student Opera Society and the Co-founder of Art Song in Action. Sofia will be beginning an Opera Course at the Royal College of Music (RCM) in September 2021 as an RCM Scholar.

**257 words**

