**Sofia Kirwan-Baez – Soprano**

Described as a ‘a superb singer actress’ ([Opera Today](https://operatoday.com/2022/11/orpheus-in-the-underworld-at-the-royal-college-of-music/)), Anglo-Venezuelan soprano Sofia Kirwan-Baez is a Kathleen Ferrier semi-finalist, a Josephine Baker Trust artist, a Sybil Tutton award holder and a Musicians’ Company Award recipient. She is a Young Artist on the National Opera Studio’s (NOS) Global Talent Programme, generously supported by Lionel and Marylynn Anthony.

Operatic roles include Musetta *La Bohème* (Longborough Festival Opera 2024), Elle *La Voix Humaine* (Barricade Arts / Cumbria Opera), Adina *L’Elisir d’amore* (Wild Arts), Eurydice *Orpheus in the Underworld* (RCM Opera Studio), Le Feu *L’Enfant et les Sortilèges* (RCM Opera Studio), Papagena *Die Zauberflöte* (RCM Opera Studio) and World premieres of works by Jasper Dommett (RWCMD Atmospheres Festival), Marco Galvani (Faded Ink Productions) and Toby Young (Oxford Music Faculty). In Summer 2023, she covered Eurydice in Longborough Festival Opera’s *Orfeo* and in March 2024, covered Karolka in English National Opera’s *Jenůfa*. Past opera scenes include Sophie *Der* *Rosenkavalier*, Gretel *Hänsel & Gretel* and Lisa *Queen of Spades*.

A seasoned recitalist, concert work includes Schoenberg’s *Pierrot Lunaire* at Birmingham Cathedral (2022), and a fully-staged performance at the Midlands Arts Centre (2023). Oratorio performances have comprised Handel’s Messiah with Nevill Holt (2022), Bach’s *B minor mass* and *Trauerode* BWV 198 (City Music with Adrian Butterfield), Haydn’s Creation (Mayfield Festival), Mahler’s 4th Symphony, Monteverdi’s *Vespers* (Cadogan Hall), Vivaldi’s *Gloria*, Handel’s *Dixit Dominus* (Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford with Schola Cantorum), Britten’s *Rejoice in the Lamb,* among others. She made her Wigmore debut in September 2023 as part of their 2023 French Song Exchange, a programme supervised by Felicity Lott and François Le Roux. Sofia also performed in the 2023 Oxford International Song Festival as an Emerging Artist in a recital called *Tell me the truth about Love*.

Having begun her musical studies with the violin in El Sistema in Caracas (Venezuela), she later started playing the piano, continuing both instruments in the Périgueux Conservatoire. Sofia studied Music at Oxford University and Vocal Performance at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama, where she was supported by Rotary International. Sofia was a Huffner Scholar supported by the Sir Gordon Palmer Scholarship in the Royal College of Music Opera School and is a winner of the RCM’s Concerto Competition (2021). She was also a member of Genesis 16 (2018-19).