Duo Amaris - Ensemble Biography

Duo Amaris elevate the timeless simplicity of guitar and voice to new heights, winning over audiences with their 'grand virtuosity and superb interpretations' (Salzgitter Zeitung). Jesse Flowers' mastery of the guitar's rich array of tone colours coupled with Julia Spies' remarkably clear diction and the pure expressive power of her timbre allows them to bring stories to life that span centuries, from songs by John Dowland to compositions written especially for them.

Both acclaimed soloists in their own right, Spies and Flowers met as a result of their individual successes at the German National Music Competition in 2016. They then formed Duo Amaris, giving nearly 20 recitals as part of the 61. National Concert for Young Artists series to acclaim from audiences and critics alike, and have continued to perform together regularly ever since.

In April 2020 they released their debut CD 'Nachtstücke' with the label PASCHENrecords to much critical acclaim, leading Opus Klassiek to write that 'they form the ideal storytelling duo, the fine line between strict art song and intuitive freedom practically disappears.'

Their EP 'Tell Them' serves as the anticipated follow-up to their debut CD, and was released in July 2024. It is a collection of folk songs featuring settings by Federico García Lorca, Johannes Brahms, Benjamin Britten and Béla Bartók. The centerpiece of the programme however is the song cycle "Tell them" (2023), inspired by the theme of folksong, written specifically for Duo Amaris by Brazilian composer João Luiz. It is set to texts by the Marshallese poet Kathy Jetñil-Kijiner.

Their music-making centres around captivating storytelling and wholehearted musicianship, as well as a careful selection of repertoire that touches on themes rarely addressed in the world of classical music. The ability to engage in dialogue, approachability, and humor are integral parts of their collaborative work.

27.06.2025