

Kristīne Jaunalksne,

originally from Riga, studied choir conducting at the Music Academy of Latvia and spent many years directing the chamber choir "Tonika" receiving an impressive array of awards from a number of international choir competitions.

Kristine also studied singing at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis with Andreas Scholl and Evelyn Tubb and at the Conservatoire de Musique in Neuchatel with Jeanne Roth.

Kristine has a lot of experience performing throughout Europe as an oratorio soloist but her real passion lies in exploring more dramatic roles both in opera and semi staged concerts. Of special note were projects such as "Se m'amate io v'adoro" under the direction of Joachim Schlömer; "Rappresentatione di Anima et di Corpo" by Emilio di Cavalieri under Christina Pluhar, "Combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda" by Claudio Monteverdi under the direction of the Berlin dancer and choreographer Mirella Weingarten and "Barockburlesque"- a successful connection of classical baroque music and classical jazz under the direction of Ann Allen. Kristine also enjoys ensemble singing and has performed with several groups including Collegium Vocale, directed by Peter Phillips, Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin, directed by Attilio Cremonesi, L'Arpeggiata directed by Christina Pluhar and Sette Voci directed by Peter Kooij.

However Kristine's heart lies very firmly with her own baroque ensemble Savadi which in 2003 won the "Early Music Network International Young Artist's Competition" in York, England. A year later they won again at the "Van Wassenaer Concours" in Hague, Holland.

With Savadi Kristine has found a way to combine period authenticity with a contemporary expression relevant to our time. The group is played regularly on BBC, ORF and DRS radio programmes and their latest CD, "Fabellae sacrae "has been received with much acclaim.