

Axelle Saint-Cirel Bio 2025

The French mezzo-soprano Axelle Saint-Cirel first came to international prominence with her breathtaking performance of the French national anthem *La Marseillaise*, sung from the rooftop of the Grand Palais—one of Paris's most iconic landmarks known for its Beaux-Arts architecture—during the opening ceremony of the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. The national broadcaster France 2 described her as a “revolutionary revelation”, and her performance swiftly became an unforgettable moment of that historic global event.

A graduate of the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris, Axelle Saint-Cirel appeared at Ireland's Wexford Festival Opera in Frederick Delius's *The Magic Fountain*, where she excelled in the role of Watawa under the direction of Francesco Cilluffo. She also portrayed Kardinälin in S. Schwab's *Musketiere*, following her selection as one of only fourteen young artists invited to join the prestigious Salzburg Young Singers Project at the Salzburger Festspiele in the summer of 2025. There, she performed under the baton of Carlo Benedetto Cimento with the Mozarteumorchester of Salzburg, showcasing her artistry on one of the world's most distinguished operatic stages.

The 2025/26 season sees Axelle Saint-Cirel perform for the celebrations of *La Nuit de la Voix*, the gala concert of the Fondation Orange held at the Palais Garnier—Paris's historic opera house—alongside cellist Gautier Capuçon and countertenor Philippe Jaroussky, two leading figures in French classical music, as well as in the BBC's *Last Night of the Proms 2025* at London's Royal Albert Hall, (one of Britain's most cherished musical traditions). She will appear at the Bordeaux National Opera House in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* as the *Zweite Dame* (Second Lady) and at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris with the ensemble *Les Voix des Outre-mer* in Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, portraying *Maria*.

A much-in-demand artist, she continues to perform in leading houses including the Bordeaux National Opera House, the Saint-Georges International Music Festival, and with the Stuttgart Philharmonic under the auspices of Opera For Peace.

Her stage experience embraces both the great operatic repertoire and the French lyric tradition. Axelle Saint-Cirel has appeared as *Bacchis* in Offenbach's *La Belle Hélène* at the Toulon Opera House, as *Maman*, *La Tasse chinoise* and *La Libellule* in Ravel's *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* under the direction of David Molard Soriano in a production with Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo, choreographed by Jean-Christophe Maillot—a collaboration with the Monte Carlo Opera Academy in 2023. In 2025, she returned to the main stage of the Monte Carlo Opera as *Maman* in a staging by Jean-Louis Grinda. She has also portrayed *Dinah*, *Anita* and *Ruth* in Bernstein's musicals *Trouble in Tahiti*, *West Side Story* and *Wonderful Town*. The audience of the Avignon Opera House was captivated by her portrayal of *Carmen* in *Carmen Intime*, a production directed by Frédéric Roels, and did also perform *Nicklausse* in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* during a tour of France's overseas territories with Les Voix des Outre-mer.

Axelle Saint-Cirel represented France at the 2023 Opera for Peace Academy and was named an “Emerging Artist” for the 2024–2025 season. A distinguished competitor, she is a prize-winner in several international competitions, including Mélodie de Gordes, Nuits Lyriques de Marmande, Voix des Outre-mer and the 2023 Génération Opéra programme. The mezzo-soprano has refined her craft through masterclasses with renowned artists such as Anne Sofie von Otter, Barbara Frittoli, Stéphane Fuget, Karine Deshayes, Brian Jagde, Sumi Jo and Sophie Koch. Upon special invitation from Sabine Devieille and Mathieu Pordoy, she shares the prestigious Parisian stage of the Salle Gaveau for a programme of Mozart concert arias. Khatia Buniatishvili's concert series *Khatia Buniatishvili and Friends* at the Paris Philharmonic and at London's Barbican Hall in June 2025 also featured her, an appearance that was especially well received.

A versatile performer, Axelle Saint-Cirel combines a background in jazz with her classical training, collaborating with leading French artists such as Anne Pacey, Camélia Jordana, Sandra Nkaké

and Leïla Martial at Les 2 Scènes of Besançon in 2015, and more recently with Waxx, MC Solaar and Solann on the iconic stage of Folies Bergères in Paris. On television, she has taken part in several of France's flagship cultural programmes, including *Culture Box* and *Le Grand Échiquier*, where she has appeared in live concerts. She performed alongside Nolwenn Leroy for *Nos Voix pour Toutes*, a nationwide charity event orchestrated by the women's rights organisation *Fondation des Femmes*, collaborated with the popular collective *Les Enfoirés*, known for their annual fundraising concerts supporting social causes, and joined tenor Vincent Niclo during a televised tribute to the legendary Charles Aznavour. She was also invited as a surprise guest on *La Boîte à Secrets*, the family-favourite variety show presented by Stéphane Bern, and took part in the 2025 *Victoires de la Musique*, the French equivalent of the BRIT Awards, performing *La Maritza* in a special musical tribute to Sylvie Vartan.

Her dynamism, precision and artistry have made her a highly sought-after performer for major public celebrations, fashion events, sporting ceremonies and exclusive private concerts.