

The German Soubrette Alishia Funken was born in Würselen, near Aachen. She studied classical singing at the Hochschule für Musik und Tanz in Cologne with Prof. Brigitte Lindner and successfully completed her studies in spring 2016 with a Master of Music in Classical Singing at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Mannheim with Prof. Stefanie Krahenfeld. She was a scholarship holder of Richard-Wagner-Verband Wuppertal and Yehudi Menuhin Live Music Now Rhein-Neckar. Funken received further coachings from Heike Gierhardt and has attended master classes with Prof. Josef Protschka, Prof. Noelle Turner, Kurt Moll, Guido Baehr, Mary Plazas and Kor-Jan Dusseljee. During her studies, Funken continued her education in musical technique (Prof. Noelle Turner), acting (Thomas Braus) and dance.

At the age of seventeen Alishia Funken appeared on the ZDF-Show "Klassik Kids," and while still a student, made her debut at the Theater Dortmund in the world-wide premiere of "Zirkus Furioso" as "Frau Dschinghis Khan," with direction by Alexander Becker and musical direction by Michael Hönes. In 2010 Funken sang at the Theater Bonn gala "A Night at the Opera" with musical direction by Michael Barfuß, and in 2011, the soprano performed the role of "Cupido" in a HfMT Cologne's production of Offenbach's operetta "Orpheus in der Unterwelt" at the Theater Leverkusen with direction by Igor Folwill and musical direction by Stephan Wehr, and the following year, she sang Angelo Custode and Anima Beata in "La Rappresentazione di Anima et di Corpo" by Emilio de' Cavalieri, which was broadcast in the Cologne Domradio (musical direction: Thilo Dahlmann). In 2012, Alishia Funken played the "Mi" in "Das Land des Lächelns" at the theater ball of Wuppertaler Bühnen with direction by Thomas Braus and musical direction by Michael Albert and performed as "Olga" and "Do-Do" in "Die Lustige Witwe" at the Schloßfestspiele Zwingenberg (direction: Kristina Gerhard, musical direction: Karsten Huschke). She was, in 2013, "Flora" in Britten's "The Turn of the Screw" at the Saarländisches Staatstheater (direction: Beate Baron, musical direction: Thomas Peuschel) and in 2014 "Virginia Otis" in "Das Gespenst von Canterville" at the Musiktheater im Revier Gelsenkirchen with direction by Carsten Kirchmeier and musical direction by Askan Geisler. From 2015 to 2017 she was a permanent member of the Tourneoper Mannheim and sang many roles from the Soubrette repertoire. Since the 2017/2018 season, Funken has been a part of the Kammeroper Köln ensemble and sang there the roles of Hannchen in "Der Vetter aus Dingsda" with direction by Wolfgang Lachnitt and musical direction by Inga Hilsberg, "Gerda" in "Die Schneekönigin" by Esther Hilsberg (direction: Cristiano Fioravanti, musical direction: Thomas Aydintan), and "Ermengarde" in "Hello, Dolly!" (direction: Holger Müller-Brandes, musical direction: Inga Hilsberg). During the same season, she also created the role of the title figure in the premiere of the children's opera "Babbel" by Paula Fünfeck at the Musiktheater im Revier Gelsenkirchen with direction by Sabine Löw. In the current 2018/2019 season, Alishia Funken is playing the roles of "Cupido" in "Orpheus in der Unterwelt" (direction: Roland Hüve, musical direction: Inga Hilsberg) at the Kammeroper Köln and the revivals of "Ermengarde" in "Hello, Dolly!" and "Gerda" in "Die Schneekönigin." In January Funken will be performing at the Musiktheater im Revier Gelsenkirchen in the children's opera "Mission Possible."

From 2011 to 2014 Funken participated in the recording of six CDs with songs for children that were published by Ökotopia- and Don-Bosco-Verlag. In the spring of 2015 she founded the music cabaret "Die Fröhlich-WG" (The Friendly Apartment) with accordionist and singer Simone Krampe, a show in which the duo interprets classical music and chanson in new arrangements with funny and socially ironic dialogues.