



THE QUEEN

SONJA

INTERNATIONAL

MUSIC

COMPETITION



OSLO

16-23 AUGUST

2001

VOCAL

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HER MAJESTY QUEEN SONJA/HENNES MAJESTET DRONNING SONJA

In 1984, a handful of influential people in the Norwegian music world started work on a project to set up an international music competition in Norway. The first competition was for pianists only and was held in 1988.

Leading music institutions such as the Norwegian Academy of Music, the Norwegian National Opera, the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation NRK and the Norwegian Concert Institute were involved in the project. It was these organisations' willingness and ability to work together that laid the foundation for the continued success and growth of the competition.

This year, Oslo is hosting the sixth Queen Sonja International Music Competition. The competition has served to establish Oslo and Norway as important names on the international music scene. Many of the competition's prizewinners have gone on to have impressive international careers; some of them are now particularly sought after, and a few have even become stars.

The organisers attach particular importance to making sure that all the participants that come to Oslo experience the competition as inspiring. For example, all the contestants that do not make it to the final round are given the opportunity to talk to the jury to gain advice and suggestions. This in itself is a major privilege, as the jury members represent an impressive group of professional musicians, including top personalities from the international opera world.

I hope the contestants and the audience enjoy the week.

Ellen Horn
MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS/KULTURMINISTER

Det var i 1984 at sentrale aktører i norsk musikkliv startet arbeidet med å etablere landets første internasjonale musikkkonkurranse. Den første konkurransen, den gang for pianister, ble gjennomført i 1988.

Ledende musikk institusjoner som Norges musikkhøgskole, Den Norske Opera, Oslo-Filharmonien, NRK og Rikskonsertene ble involvert. Det var viljen og evnen til samarbeid blant disse institusjonene som dannede grunnlaget for konkurransens fremvekst.

Nå arrangeres konkurransen for sjette gang, og den har allerede bidratt til å sette Oslo og Norge på det internasjonale musikk-kartet. Mange av konkurransens prisvinnere har opplevd fine internasjonale karrierer. Enkelte er

sogar særdeles ettertraktet og har oppnådd "stjernestatus".

Arrangørene legger vekt på at alle deltakerne som kommer til Oslo skal oppleve konkurransen som faglig inspirerende. Derfor får alle som ikke går videre til finalen anledning til å hente råd og veiledning fra juryens medlemmer. I seg selv er dette et privilegium etter-

en imponerende kompetanse med ledende personligheter fra den internasjonale operaverden.

Jeg ønsker alle deltakere og publikum givende dager.



WELCOME TO OSLO !
It is a great pleasure for me as Mayor of Oslo to welcome you all to this year's Queen Sonja International Music Competition. Oslo is very proud to host such a prestigious event.

Originally, the competition was for pianists, but since 1995 it has been a singing competition. This year, participants from 40 different nations expressed an interest in the competition, and we have the pleasure of welcoming contestants from 16 nations to Oslo.

As a city, Oslo has a lot to offer visitors. I hope that audience and the participants alike will have the opportunity to visit some of Oslo's attractions.

I would like to wish all the contestants the best of luck in the Queen Sonja International Music Competition 2001!

VELKOMMEN TIL OSLO !
Det er en stor glede som ordfører å få ønske velkommen til Dronning Sonja Internasjonale Musikkonkurranse. I Oslo er vi stolte over å være vertskap for en konkurranse av et slikt format.

Etter at konkurransen de første gangene var for pianister, har den siden 1995 vært en sangkonkurranse. Dette året har deltakere fra hele 40 nasjoner meldt sin interesse og 16 nasjoner er representert.

Oslo by har mye å tilby sine tilreisende. Det er mitt håp at publikum og deltakere får anledning til å oppleve noen av Oslos severdigheter.

Lykke til med Dronning Sonja Internasjonale Musikkonkurranse 2001!

Per Ditlev-Simonsen
MAYOR OF OSLO/ORDFØRER

THE QUEEN SONJA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION

Major international music competitions play an important role in the establishment of networks for participants in the national and international classical music world. The foremost talents are given an opportunity at the start of their careers to present themselves to influential jury members who represent the elite level of the music world, and the public is introduced to some of the most gifted performers of our time.

The Queen Sonja International Music Competition is held for singers every other year and is based on a collaboration between the Norwegian National Opera, the Norwegian Academy of Music, the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation and the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra.

Many people have helped to bring about this year's competition. The Ministry of Cultural Affairs has been the main contributor, and a number of other partners have provided generous economic support. We would like to thank all of our excellent supporters for their efforts.

A special thanks goes to Her Majesty, Queen Sonja. Her interest has been an important source of inspiration in the work of arranging the competition.

We would like to wish the contest participants, jury members and not least of all the public a very special welcome to these exciting days in August.



Bjørn F. Boysen

Bjørn F. Boysen
PRESIDENT/STYREFORMANN

DRONNING SONJA INTERNASJONALE MUSIKKONKURRANSE

De store internasjonale konkurransene spiller en sentral rolle i etableringen av nettverk for aktører innen nasjonalt og internasjonalt musikkliv. De fremste talentene i etableringsfasen gis en anledning til å presentere seg for innflytelsesrike jurymedlemmer som representerer musikklivets absolutte toppsjikt. Og publikum kan stifte bekjentskap med noen av vår tids mest begavede utøvere.

Dronning Sonja Internasjonale Musikkonkurranse arrangeres for sangere annet hvert år, og er tuftet på et samarbeid mellom Den Norske Opera, Norges musikkhøgskole, Norsk Rikskringkasting og Oslo-Filharmonien.

Mange har bidratt til gjennomføringen av årets konkurranse. Kulturdepartementet er hovedbidragsyter. I tillegg kommer en rekke andre økonomiske støttepartnere. Vi vil takke alle våre gode hjelpere for innsatsen.

En spesiell takk går til Hennes Majestet Dronning Sonja. Hennes interesse har vært en viktig inspirasjon i arbeidet med konkurransen.

Vi ønsker konkurransedeltakere, jurymedlemmer og ikke minst publikum velkommen til spennende augstdager i Oslo.



Lars H. Flæten

Lars Hallvard Flæten
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/
DAGLIG LEDER

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Arild Erikstad
Head of Music Department,
the Norwegian Broadcasting
Corporation (NRK)

Frederik Zimmer
The Lindeman Foundation

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Det Kongelige Kulturdepartement
Sigval Bergesen D.Y. og Hustru Nanki's
Almennyttige Stiftelse
Eckbos Legater
Oslo kommune
Lindemans Legat

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS

The Royal Ministry of Cultural Affairs
Sigval Bergesen D.Y. and Wife Nanki's
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Eckbo's Legacy
City of Oslo
The Lindeman Foundation

THE COMPETITION'S SECRETARIAT

The Queen Sonja International Music
Competition
P.O. Box 5190 Majorstua
N - 0302 Oslo
Norway

Telephone: + 47 23 36 70 67
Fax: + 47 22 46 36 30
E-mail: sonja@nmh.no
www.nmh.no/sonja.html

*The Queen Sonja International Music
Competition is a member of the
World Federation of International
Music Competitions.*

KONKURRANSENS SEKRETARIAT

Dronning Sonja Internasjonale
Musikkonkurranse
Postboks 5190 Majorstua
N - 0302 Oslo

Telefon: 23 36 70 67
Fax: 22 46 36 30
E-mail: sonja@nmh.no
www.nmh.no/sonja.html

*Dronning Sonja Internasjonale
Musikkonkurranse er medlem av
World Federation of International
Music Competitions.*

ORDER OF EVENTS

OPENING CEREMONY

Thursday, August 16
The Free Mason Building, 19:00
For invited guests

PRELIMINARIES

Friday, August 17
The Lindeman Hall,
The Norwegian Academy of Music
25 participants
11:00 – 13:00
14:00 – 16:00
16:30 – 17:30

Saturday, August 18

The Lindeman Hall
25 participants
11:00 – 13:00
14:00 – 16:00
16:30 – 17:30

The results will be announced
at approximately 20:00

SEMI-FINALS

Monday, August 20
The Lindeman Hall
15 participants
14:00 – 15:15
15:45 – 17:00
17:45 – 19:00

The results will be announced
at approximately 20:30

FINALS AND AWARDS CEREMONY

Thursday, August 23
The Oslo Concert Hall, 19:00
6 finalists perform operatic arias
The Norwegian Opera Orchestra /
Gregor Bühl

Awarding of prizes
by H.M. Queen Sonja

Repertoire

Preliminaries, August 17 – 18

The repertoire will consist of
works chosen by the contestant
within the genres opera and either
lieder or oratorio. Approximately
10–12 minutes' performance time
per contestant.

Semi-finals, August 20

The repertoire will comprise one
work of Edvard Grieg, contemporary
music, opera and either lieder or
oratorio. The contestant shall
select one work by Edvard Grieg
and one work of contemporary
music. In the other genres, the
jury selects works from the repertoire
submitted by the contestant.
The semi-finalists will be notified
of the jury's choice of repertoire
after completion of the preliminaries.
Approximately 15 minutes' actual
performance time per contestant.

Finals, August 23

Each finalist will sing 2 or 3
operatic arias. The arias will be
selected by the jury from the
contestant's repertoire list. The
finalists will be notified of the
choice of repertoire after completion
of the semi-finals.

PRIZES

1st prize: NOK 125 000
2nd prize: NOK 75 000
3rd prize: NOK 50 000
Three finalist prizes: NOK 10 000
Trolldhaugen's Grieg Prize: NOK 10 000

CONCERT ENGAGEMENTS

The winner of the 1st prize will be
offered engagements with the
following Norwegian institutions:

- The Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra
- The Norwegian Concert Institute
- The Norwegian Radio Orchestra
- The Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra
- The Stavanger Symphony Orchestra
- The Trondheim Symphony Orchestra

The Norwegian Opera will offer one of
the prizewinners an engagement.

The artistic directors of the following
Nordic institutions will be present and
consider engagements for the finalists:

- The Royal Danish Opera, Copenhagen
- The Royal Swedish Opera, Stockholm
- The Bergen International Festival

The Edvard Grieg Museum offers a
concert engagement for the winner of
the Trolldhaugen's Grieg Prize.



Her Majesty Queen Sonja and the 1st prize
winner of the competition for singers in
1999, Virginia Tola from Argentina (soprano).

AVVIKLINGS-PLAN

ÅPNINGSSEREMONI

Torsdag 16. august
Den Norske Frimurerordens Store Festsal,
kl. 1900
For inviterte gjester

INNLEDENDE RUNDER

Fredag 17. august
Lindemansalen,
Norges musikkhøgskole
25 deltakere
kl. 1100 – 1300
kl. 1400 – 1600
kl. 1630 – 1730

Lørdag 18. august

Lindemansalen
25 deltakere
kl. 1100 – 1300
kl. 1400 – 1600
kl. 1630 – 1730

Resultatene kunngjøres ca. kl. 2000

SEMIFINALE

Mandag 20. august
Lindemansalen
15 deltakere
kl. 1400 – 1515
kl. 1545 – 1700
kl. 1745 – 1900

Resultatene kunngjøres ca. kl. 2030

FINALEKONSERT/ PRISUTDELINGER

Torsdag 23. august
Oslo Konserthus, kl. 1900
6 deltakere synger opera-rier
Den Norske Operas Orkester /
Gregor Bühl

Prisutdelinger ved H.M. Dronning Sonja

Repertoar

Innledende runder,

16. – 23. august

Repertoaret skal omfatte et selv-
valgt verk innen genrene opera og
enten lieder eller oratorium.

Ca. 10 - 12 minutters effektiv
syngetid pr. deltaker.

Semifinale, 20. august

Repertoaret skal omfatte et verk
av Edvard Grieg, samtidsmusikk,
opera og enten lieder eller oratorium.

Verket av Edvard Grieg og verket
med samtidsmusikk velges av
deltakerne selv. Innen de øvrige
genrene velger juryen

ut fra repertoarlisten som den
enkelte deltaker har satt opp.

Semifinalistene får beskjed om
juryens valg av dette repertoaret
etter gjennomføringen av innledende
runder. Ca. 15 minutters effektiv
syngetid pr. deltaker.

Finale, 23. august

Hver finalist skal syng 2-3
opera-rier. Ariene velges av
juryen fra deltakernes repertoar-
liste. Finalistene får beskjed om
dette repertoaret etter gjennom-
føringen av semifinalen..

PRISER

1. pris: kr 125 000,-
2. pris: kr 75 000,-
3. pris: kr 50 000,-
3 finalistpriser kr 10 000,-
Trolldhaugens Grieg-pris kr 10 000,-

KONSERTENGASJEMENTER

Vinneren av konkurransens 1. pris tilbys
engasjementer ved følgende norske
institusjoner:

- Bergen Filharmoniske Orkester
- Kringkastingsorkestret
- Oslo-Filharmonien
- Rikskonsertene
- Stavanger Symfoniorkester
- Trondheim Symfoniorkester

Den Norske Opera tilbyr en av pris-
vinnerne engasjement.

Lederne for flere nordiske institusjoner
vil være tilstede og vurdere engasje-
menter er for finalistene:

- Det Kgl. Teater, København
- Kungliga Operan, Stockholm
- Festspillene i Bergen

Edvard Grieg Museum tilbyr konsert-
engasjement for vinneren av
Trolldhaugens Grieg-pris.



NATIONAL SCREENING COMMITTEE

194 singers from 40 nations applied to participate in the competition. A national screening committee consisting of Svein Bjørkøy (Chairman), Toril Carlsen, Barbro Marklund and Trond Halstein Moe considered the demo tapes submitted by the applicants. The screening committee chose 50 applicants, who have been invited to Oslo.

194 sangere fra 40 ulike nasjoner har søkt om deltakelse i konkurransen. En nasjonal uttakingsjury bestående av Svein Bjørkøy (formann), Toril Carlsen, Barbro Marklund og Trond Halstein Moe har valgt ut 50 deltakere som er invitert til Oslo.

CHAIRMAN OF THE JURY/
JURYFORMANN

MENNO FEENSTRA
The Netherlands
Casting Controller,
Glyndebourne Festival

Menno Feenstra started out as a television presenter, producer and director for NOS radio and television in the Netherlands. His main areas of responsibility were broadcasts from the Holland Festival, the Concertgebouw Orchestra and arts and music pro-

grammes in general. He was also NOS's specialist in vocal music. Feenstra studied singing with Herman Woltman in The Hague, and gives classes in audition techniques for young singers in London, New York, Chicago and Amsterdam.

In addition to being a correspondent for Opera News in New York, he has also written for a number of magazines, including *Entriact*, *Music*, *Opera* and *Disc*. Since 1977, he has been a member of the jury for the Edison Award, and since 1990 he has been the Casting Controller of the Glyndebourne Festival in England.

Menno Feenstra har sin bakgrunn som programleder, produsent og instruktør for NOS radio og TV i Nederland. Hans viktigste ansvarsområder var sendinger fra Holland Festival, Concertgebouw-orkesteret samt kultur- og musikk-programmer.

Han var dessuten NOS's spesialist på vokalmusikk.

Feenstra studerte sang med Herman Woltman i Haag, og har selv undervist i auditionteknikk for unge sangere i London, New York, Chicago og Amsterdam.

I tillegg til å være korrespondent for Opera News i New York, har han også skrevet for tidsskrifter som Entriact, Music, Opera, Disc mfl. Siden 1977 har han sittet i juryen for Edison Award, og har siden 1990 vært produksjonsleder for Glyndebourne Festival i England.

MEMBERS OF THE JURY/JURYMEDLEMMER



INGRID BJONER
Norway
Soprano

Ingrid Bjoner made her concert debut in Oslo in 1952 and her opera debut in Oslo and Stockholm in 1957. After that, she was a member of the operas in Wuppertal and Düsseldorf, and in 1961 she was employed by the Bavarian State Opera in Munich. That same year, she made her debut at the Metropolitan in New York, where she performed for 15 years in roles ranging from Mozart to Wagner. She has been a regular guest performer at most of the major opera houses around the world in addition to performing at the festivals in Salzburg and Bayreuth. In 1960, she was awarded the Norwegian Music Critics Prize in Oslo, and in 1963 she was made a Knight of the Order of St. Olav. Later that year, she received the title of "Bayerische Kammersängerin" from the Bavarian State Opera in Munich, and in 1966 she received one of the highest civilian honours given by the state of Bavaria, the Bayerische Verdienstorden. In 1980, she was made a Commander of the Order of St. Olav, and she is a Paul Harris Fellow. She has also received the Augusta Jerwell Award, the Lindeman Award (1987) and the Anders Jahre Cultural Award (1995).

In recent years, she has worked as a Professor at the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo and a guest lecturer at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen.

Ingrid Bjoner hadde sin konsertdebut i Oslo i 1952 og sin operadebut i Oslo og Stockholm i 1957. Siden var hun tilknyttet operaene i Wuppertal og Düsseldorf, og i 1961 ble hun ansatt ved Bayerische Staatsoper i München. Samme år debuterte hun på Metropolitan i New York der hun i 15 år opptrådte med roller som spente fra Mozart til Wagner. Hun har for øvrig regelmessig gjestet de viktigste operascener verden over foruten festspillene i Salzburg og Bayreuth. I 1960 mottok hun musikk- kritikerprisen i Oslo og ble i 1963 ridder av 1. klasse av St. Olavs Orden. Samme år ble hun utnevnt til Bayerische Kammersängerin, og i 1966 mottok hun Bayerische Verdienstorden. Hun ble kommandør av St. Olavs orden i 1980, og hun er Paul Harris Fellow. Hun har også mottatt Augusta Jerwellprisen og Lindemanprisen (1987) samt Anders Jahre Kulturpris (1995). I den siste tiden har hun vært professor ved Norges musikkhøgskole i Oslo og gjesteprofessor ved Det Kgl. Danske Musikkonservatoriet i København.

MEMBERS OF THE JURY/JURYMEDLEMMER



JAMES KING
USA
Tenor

James King made his professional debut at Spring Opera Theatre in 1961. Since then, he has performed at most of the major opera houses in the world, including more than 500 performances at the State Opera in Vienna and frequent appearances at the Bayreuth Festival, the Royal Opera, Covent Garden and the Salzburg Festival. He has enjoyed triumphs at La Scala in Milan, Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires and the Bolshoi Opera in Moscow. He is the only American to hold the title Kammersänger at three leading opera houses – the Deutsche Oper in Berlin and the State Operas in Vienna and Bavaria. In 1966, he made his debut at the Metropolitan, where he has since been heard in roles such as Siegmund, Lohengrin, Calaf in Turandot, Captain Vere, Bacchus and Cavaradossi in Tosca. His discography includes more than 20 complete operas, as well as a number of concert recordings.

James King hadde sin profesjonelle debut i Spring Opera Theatre i 1961. Han har siden gjestet de største operahus verden over, inkludert statsoperaen i Wien (hvor han har optrådt mer enn 500 ganger), festspillene i Bayreuth, The Royal Opera, Covent Garden og festspillene i Salzburg. Han har også feiret triumfer ved La Scala i Milano, Teatro Colón i Buenos Aires og ved Bolshoi - operaen i Moskva. Han er den eneste amerikaner som innehar tittelen Kammersänger hos tre ledende operahus - Deutsche Oper i Berlin, og statsoperaene i Wien og Bayern. I 1966 debuterte han ved Metropolitan, hvor han siden har vært å høre i roller som blant annet Siegmund, Lohengrin, Calaf i Turandot, Captain Vere, Bacchus og Cavaradossi i Tosca. Diskografien hans inneholder mer enn 20 komplette operer i tillegg til en rekke konsertplater.



BJØRN SIMENSEN
Norway
General Director
The Norwegian National Opera

From 1980 to 1984, Bjørn Simensen was director of the Gothenberg Symphony Orchestra and the Gothenberg Concert Hall. In 1984, he took over as General Director of the Norwegian National Opera and immediately set about making sure that more stage pieces were commissioned from contemporary Norwegian composers. In 1990, he became editor in chief of the Norwegian daily newspaper Dagbladet, but returned to his position as the General Director of the Norwegian Opera in 1995.

Bjørn Simensen var i perioden 1980 - 84 direktør for Gøteborg Symfoniorkester og Gøteborg Konserthus. I 1984 ble han sjef for Den Norske Opera og sørget da blant annet for flere bestillinger av nye sceniske verker av norske samtidskomponister. I 1990 ble han sjefredaktør i avisen Dagbladet, men gikk i 1995 igjen tilbake til stillingen som operasjef.



REGINA RESNIK
USA
Mezzo-soprano

Regina Resnik was catapulted into operatic stardom in 1942 when she, at 24 hours' notice, went on as Lady Macbeth with the New Opera Company of New York. After 13 years as a leading dramatic soprano, she began her second career as a mezzo-soprano in 1955. In a remarkable career spanning more than 50 years and over 80 roles, she was a regular guest at leading opera houses in America and Europe. Since 1971, she has directed a numerous international opera and film productions. In the last decade, Ms. Resnik has dedicated her time to young singers, teaching at the Met's Young Artist Program, L'Opéra de la Bastille, the San Francisco Opera and the Curtis, Juilliard, Manhattan and Mannes Schools of Music, among others.

Regina Resnik ble kastet inn i operaens stjerneverden da hun på 24 timers varsel sang Lady Macbeth med New Opera Company of New York i 1942. Etter 13 år som en ledende dramatisk sopran, startet hun sin andre karriere som mezzo-sopran i 1955. I en bemerkelsesverdige karriere som strakk seg over 50 år gjestet hun alle de ledende operahusene i USA og Europa. Siden 1971 har hun også regissert en rekke internasjonale opera- og filmproduksjoner. Regina Resnik har deretter viet sin tid til å undervise unge sangere på operastudios knyttet til blant andre Metropolitan, Bastille-operaen og San Francisco Opera samt ved undervisningsinstitusjoner som Juilliard, Curtis, Manhattan og Mannes.



DAME JOAN SUTHERLAND
Australia
Soprano

After her triumph in "Lucia di Lammermoor" at Covent Garden in 1959, Joan Sutherland established herself as one of the foremost sopranos and operatic artists of our age. She has sung in most of the major opera houses of the world and had one of the most prolific and distinguished recording careers in the history of the gramophone. Dame Joan has received Honorary Degrees from universities in Australia, Europe and America. In 1979, she was created Dame Commander of the British Empire and later awarded the Order of Merit by her Majesty the Queen. Since retiring she has been much in demand on the educating panel of many important international vocal competitions.

Etter sin triumf i "Lucia di Lammermoor" på Covent Garden i 1959, etablerte Joan Sutherland seg som en av vår tids fremste sopraner og operapersonligheter. Hun har sunget ved alle de viktigste operahusene verden over, og hun kan se tilbake på en av de mest markante karrierer innen gramfoninnspillingens historie. Dame Joan har mottatt æresprofessorater fra en rekke universiteter i Australia, Europa og USA. I 1979 ble hun æret som "Dame Commander of the British Empire" og senere tildelt "Order of Merit" av den engelske dronningen. Hun har i de senere årene vært særlig etterspurt som jurydeltaker i viktige internasjonale sangkonkurranser.

MEMBERS OF THE JURY/JURYMEDLEMMER



HANS SOTIN
Germany
Bass

Hans Sotin had his first engagement in Essen from 1962 to 1964 and then became a member of the ensemble of the Staatsoper Hamburg. Since 1970, he has been working as a freelance artist with guest contracts at the Vienna State Opera, Covent Garden London, La Scala Milano, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Grand Opera Bastille in Paris and Opera Geneva, to name but a few. On the other side of the Atlantic, he frequently performs at the Metropolitan Opera New York, the Lyric Opera Chicago, San Francisco Opera and the Teatro Colon Buenos Aires.

From 1972, Hans Sotin was a permanent member of the Ensemble of the Bayreuther Festspiele.

Among the many honours Hans Sotin has received, the Friedrich Oberdörfer Prize, the Promotion Prize of Nordrhein-Westfalen and nomination as "Kammersänger" at the State Opera in Hamburg are the most outstanding ones.



LUCA TARGETTI
Italy
Casting Coordinator
Teatro alla Scala

Originally, Luca Matteo Francesco Targetti trained as an architect at Milan Polytechnic. Later, he also studied music at Scuola Musicale di Milano. After working as an architect for a while, he decided to set himself up as an impresario for singers in Milan in 1986. In 1991, he became director of a concert agency in Naples, and in 1992 he moved to Munich, where he worked for the Hilbert Agency. Since 1997, Luca Targetti has been associated with the artistic management of Teatro alla Scala in Milan.

Hans Sotin hadde sitt første engasjement i Essen i perioden 1962-1964 og ble deretter medlem av ensemblet ved Staatsoperaen i Hamburg. Siden 1970 har han gjestet operahus som Wiener Staatsoper, Covent Garden i London, La Scala i Milano, Deutsche Oper i Berlin, Grand Opera Bastille i Paris og Operaen i Genève. I Amerika synger han ved Metropolitan Opera, the Lyric Opera Chicago, San Francisco Opera, samt Teatro Colon Buenos Aires.

Siden 1972 har Hans Sotin vært fast medlem i ensemblet ved Bayreuther Festspiele.

Blant de mange utnevnelser Hans Sotin allerede har mottatt, fremstår Oberdörfer-prisen, prisen fra Nordrhein-Westfalen og utnevnelsen som "Kammersänger" ved statsoperaen i Hamburg som de viktigste.

Luca Matteo Francesco Targetti er utdannet som arkitekt ved Universitetet Politecnico di Milano. Han har også studert musikk ved Scuola Musicale di Milano.

Etter å ha arbeidet som arkitekt etablerte han seg som impresario for sangere i Milano i 1986. I 1991 ble han direktør for et konsert agentur i Napoli og i 1992 flyttet han til München hvor han arbeidet for Agentur Hilbert. Siden 1997 har Luca Targetti vært tilknyttet den kunstneriske ledelsen ved Teatro alla Scala i Milano.

OFFICIAL ACCOMPANISTS/ KONKURRANSENS AKKOMPAGNATØRER



TOR ESPEN ASPAAS

Tor Espen Aspaas received his soloist diploma from the Norwegian Academy of Music in 1996 and gave his official debut recital in Oslo 1997. He has been soloist with the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra and several other Norwegian symphony orchestras. Aspaas has performed at the Bergen International Festival and the Chamber Music Festivals in Oslo and Hardanger several times. In 2000, he accompanied the Argentinean soprano Virginia Tola (who won the Queen Sonja International Music Competition in 1999) on a national tour of recitals organised by the Norwegian Concert Institute. Tor Espen Aspaas is the artistic director of the Chamber Music Festival in Røros. He is also associate professor at the Norwegian Academy of Music.

Tor Espen Aspaas avla solist-diplomeksamen ved Norges musikkhøgskole 1996, og han debuterte i Oslo 1997. Han har vært solist med Oslo-Filharmonien og flere andre norske symfoniorkestre. Aspaas har flere ganger vært engasjert ved Fests spillene i Bergen og kammer musikkfestivalene i Oslo og Hardanger. I 2000 akkompagnerte han den argentinske stjernesopranen Virginia Tola (vinner av Dronning Sonja Internasjonale Musikkonkurranse 1999) på en landsdekkende turné for Rikskonsertene. Tor Espen Aspaas er kunstnerisk leder for Vinterfests spillene på Røros. Sitt daglige virke har han som førsteamanuensis ved Norges musikkhøgskole.



ERLING R. ERIKSEN

Erling R. Eriksen is associate professor in piano and accompaniment at the School of Arts Education of Stavanger University College. He studied with Nicolai Dirdal in Oslo, Einar Steen Nøkleberg and Hans Leygraf in Hanover and Alfons Kontarsky in Munich, where he received his Master Class Diploma in 1981. Since his debut in Oslo in 1978, he has been active as a soloist, a chamber musician and an accompanist. He has also recorded several CDs as an accompanist. He has played at the Bergen International Festival, Stavanger Chamber Music Festival and festivals in Belgium and Canada. Eriksen has performed at concerts in a number of European cities, in the USA and Japan. He has been the pianist in the Stavanger Contemporary Music Ensemble since it started in 1991.

Erling R. Eriksen er førsteamanuensis i klaver og akkompagnement ved Høgskolen i Stavanger avdeling for Kunstfag. Han studerte med Nicolai Dirdal i Oslo, Einar Steen Nøkleberg og Hans Leygraf i Hannover og Alfons Kontarsky i München, hvor han tok sitt "Meisterklassendiplom" i 1981. Etter sin debut i Oslo i 1978 har han vært aktiv som solist, kammermusiker og akkompagnatør. Som akkompagnatør har han gjort flere cd innspillinger. Han har opptrådt under Fests spillene i Bergen, Stavanger Kammermusikkfestival og ved festivaler i Belgia og Canada. Eriksen har konsertert i en rekke europeiske byer, samt i USA og Japan. Han har vært pianist i Stavanger Samtidsensemble siden starten i 1991.



SIGMUND HJELSET

Sigmund Hjelset has a piano degree from the New England Conservatory in Boston and the Royal Academy of Music in London, where he won several prizes. He made his debut in 1975, and since then he has been especially noted as a singer accompanist. That has brought him to several of Europe's most prominent concert halls, and his CD recordings with Norwegian singers have aroused international acclaim, including notices in Gramophone and Fanfare. His many tours include those of the previous prize-winners of the Queen Sonja International Music Competition. Since 1979, he has been employed by the Norwegian Academy of Music as an accompanist and piano teacher.

Sigmund Hjelset har sin pianistutdannelse fra New England Conservatory i Boston og Royal Academy of Music i London, der han vant en rekke priser. Han debuterte i 1975 og har siden spesielt markert seg som akkompagnatør for sangere. Dette har ført ham til flere av Europas viktigste konsertsaler, og hans CD-innspillinger har vakt internasjonal oppsikt, bl.a. i Gramophone og Fanfare. Hans mange turneer innbefatter også prisvinner turneer for Dronning Sonja Internasjonale Musikkonkurranse. Siden 1979 har han vært knyttet til Norges musikkhøgskole som akkompagnatør og pianolærer.



HALDOR MÆLAND

Haldor Mæland studied at the Music Conservatory in Rogaland, the Hanover College of Music and the Norwegian Academy of Music. He made his debut in Oslo in 1987. He has been soloist with many symphony orchestras and he has given recitals in Norway, Sweden and Germany. Mæland has performed at the Stavanger International Chamber Music Festival and the Festival of North Norway, and has also frequently toured with the Norwegian Concert Institute. He is an accompanist at the Norwegian Academy of Music and a piano teacher at Ski Comprehensive School.

Haldor Mæland har studert ved Rogaland Musikkonservatorium, Hochschule für Musik i Hannover og Norges musikkhøgskole hvor han avla diplomexamen i 1986. Han debuterte i Oslo i 1987, samtidig som han var landsdelsmusiker i Nord-Norge. Han har vært solist med flere symfoniorkestre og han har gitt en rekke solokonsert og kammerkonsert i Norge, Sverige og Tyskland. Han har spilt under Stavanger Kammermusikkfestival og Fests spillene i Nord-Norge, og han har ofte turnert i regi av Rikskonsertene. Mæland er akkompagnatør ved Norges musikkhøgskole og er pianolærer ved Ski videregående skole.

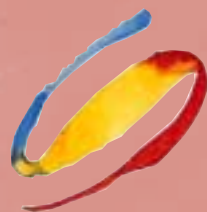
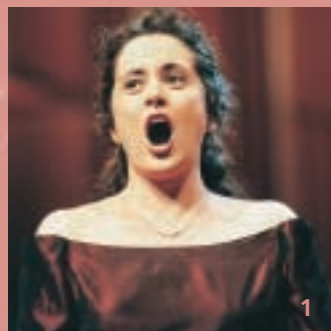


PHOTO GALLERY/FOTO GALLERI



- 1 - Ofelia Sala-Piqueras, soprano, Spain, 3rd prize 1997
- 2 - Valentina Kuyzarova, Mezzo-soprano, Bulgaria, 2nd prize 1997
- 3 - Akie Amou, Soprano, Japan, 1st prize 1995
- 4 - Virginia Tola, soprano, Argentina, 1st prize 1999
- 5 - Liao Hhang-young, baritone, China, 1st prize 1997
- 6 - Helena Ranada, mezzo-soprano, Sweden, Trollhaugen's Grieg Prize 1999
- 7 - Oana-Andra Ulteriu, mezzo-soprano, Romania, 2nd prize 1999

NATIONAL COMPETITION

Prior to the international competition, a national competitive audition was arranged in April and May for Norwegian singers. Five of the contestants proceeded to the finals, which were held in the Olavs Hall in Trondheim. These finalists will take part in the preliminary rounds of the international competition.

- 1st prize: Isa Katharina Gericke
– soprano, Namsskogan
- 2nd prize: Marita Kvarving Sølberg
– soprano, Levanger

- Finalists: Eli Kristin Hovdsveen Hagen
– soprano, Brandbu
Eva Kristine Egede-Nissen Hernes
– mezzo-soprano, Kristiansand
Espen Langvik
– baritone, Larvik

NASJONAL KONKURRANSE

I forkant av den internasjonale konkurransen ble det i april/mai arrangert en nasjonal uttakings-konkurranse for norske sangere. Fem av deltakerne gikk videre til finalen som foregikk i Olavshallen i Trondheim. Disse er med i de innledende runder i den internasjonale konkurransen:

- 1. pris: Isa Katharina Gericke
– sopran, Namsskogan
- 2. pris: Marita Kvarving Sølberg
– sopran, Levanger

- Finalister: Eli Kristin Hovdsveen Hagen
– sopran, Brandbu
Eva Kristine Egede-Nissen Hernes
– mezzosopran, Kristiansand
Espen Langvik
– baryton, Larvik

PRIZEWINNERS 1988 (PIANO)

- 1. Nigel Hill, Great Britain
- 2. Jeffrey Biegel, USA
- 3. Sergei Schepkin, Russia
- 4. Eckhart Heilingers, Germany

PRIZEWINNERS 1992 (PIANO)

- 1. Simone Pedroni, Italy
- 2. Folke Nauta, The Netherlands
- 3. Sigurd Slåttebrekk, Norway
- 4. Victor Lyadov, Russia

A special price for the best performance of Norwegian Music was awarded to Francesco Libetta, Italy

PRIZEWINNERS 1995 (VOCAL)

- 1. Akie Amou, Japan
- 2. Tygran Martirosyan, Armenia
- 3. Deng-Feng Zhao, China
- 4. Anette Seiltgen, Germany

A special price for the best performance of Norwegian Music was awarded to Melanie Diener-Gabler, Germany.

Åshild Skiri Refsdal received, as the best Norwegian competitor, a scholarship awarded by Postbanken.

PRIZEWINNERS 1997 (VOCAL)

- 1. Liao Changyong, China
- 2. Valentina Kutzarova, Bulgaria
- 3. Ofelia Sala - Piqueras, Spain

A special price for the best performance of Edvard Grieg was awarded to Valentina Kutzarowa, Austria

Hege Gustava Tjønn received a prize as the best Norwegian competitor.

PRIZEWINNERS 1999 (VOCAL)

- 1. Virginia Tola, Argentina
- 2. Oana-Andra Ulteriu, Romania
- 3. Ayk Martirosyan, Armenia

A special prize for the best performance of Edvard Grieg was awarded to Helene Ranada, Sweden.



From the competition for singers in 1999: Her Majesty Queen Sonja and from the left: Ayk Martirosyan (3rd prize), Virginia Tola (1st prize) and Oana-Andra Ulteriu (2nd prize)

PARTICIPANTS / DELTAKERE



LUBANA AL QUNTAR
SOPRANO
Syria
1972



TANJA DONATH
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Germany
1971



DANIEL BEHLE
TENOR
Germany
1974



NATALIA EVSTAFIEVA
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Russia
1975



JENNY CARLSTEDT
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Finland
1972



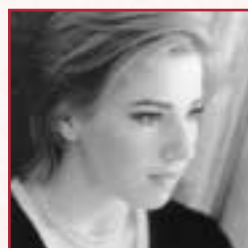
LOUISE FRIBO
SOPRANO
Denmark
1970



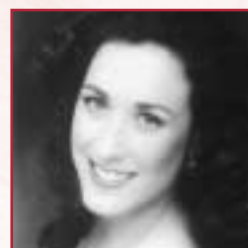
ANDREA CSEREKLYEI
SOPRANO
Hungary
1971



**ISA KATHARINA
GERICKE**
SOPRANO
Norway
1973



JENNY DIAMOND
SOPRANO
USA
1971



LISA GRAF
SOPRANO
USA
1969



INGRID DOMINIQUE
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Sweden
1972



BE SEOK HA
TENOR
Korea
1969



**ELI KRISTIN
HOVDSVEEN HAGEN**
SOPRANO
Norway
1973



YANG JING
MEZZO-SOPRANO
China
1972



AKIKO HAYASHIDA
SOPRANO
Japan
1970



HEATHER JOHNSON
MEZZO-SOPRANO
USA
1972



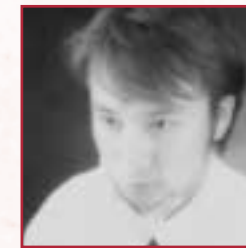
**EVA-KRISTINE
EDGE-NISSEN HERNES**
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Norway
1976



**VARDUHI
KHACHATRYAN**
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Armenia
1971



SANDRA HEYMANN
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Sweden
1971



JASON KIM
TENOR
Korea
1975



HSUAN-WEN HUANG
SOPRANO
Taiwan
1969



TAE-HYUN KIM
BARITONE
Korea
1975



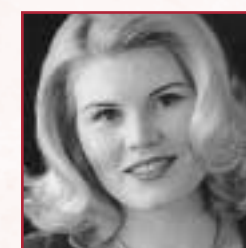
MIA HUHTA
SOPRANO
Finland
1969



**MARITA KVARVING
SØLBERG**
SOPRANO
Norway
1976



GABRIEL HWANG
TENOR
Korea
1969



**SIRRKA SUSANNA
LAMPIMÄKI**
SOPRANO
Finland
1973



PAWEL LAWRESZUK
BASS
Poland
1976



ANNA RADZIEJEWSKA
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Poland
1971



YORCK FELIX SPEER
BASS/BARITONE
Germany
1969



SILVIA AAMODT
SOPRANO
Norway
1978



KWANG-KEUN LEE
BARITONE
Korea
1970



JOHANNA RUSANEN
SOPRANO
Finland
1971



PATRYCJA STROZYK
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Poland
1972



ELEONORE MARGUERRE
SOPRANO
Germany
1978



DANIIL SHTODA
TENOR
Russia
1977



AGNIESZKA-JUSTYNA SZUMILO
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Poland
1969



ULLA PAAKKUNAINEN
SOPRANO
Finland
1969



GALINA SIDORENKA
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Russia
1969



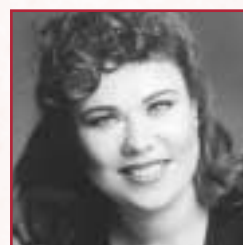
ASAKO
SOPRANO
Japan
1970



HILDEGUNN PETERSEN
SOPRANO
Norway
1969



SYLWIA SIWAK
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Poland
1973



VICTORIA WOLFE
SOPRANO
USA
1971



ROBERT POMAKOV
BASS
Canada
1981



MARIAN SJÖLANDER
SOPRANO
Canada
1969



YANYU WU
SOPRANO
China
1972



BARBARA QUINTILIANI
SOPRANO
USA
1976



KEE CHANG SONG
BARITONE
Korea
1970



TSAI-WEN YU
SOPRANO
China
1972



THE NORWEGIAN NATIONAL OPERA ORCHESTRA

In 1959, the Norwegian National Opera opened with a 35-man orchestra under the direction of Øivin Fjeldstad. Most of the original members of the Norwegian National Opera Orchestra were recruited from the National Theatre Orchestra.

Today, the orchestra boasts 77 musicians. The Norwegian National Opera Orchestra has given concerts in Copenhagen and Stockholm and toured extensively in Europe, performing in Berlin, Wiesbaden, Norwich, Santiago de Compostela.

Recordings include "Bergljot", songs by Grieg, orchestral pieces by Johan Halvorsen, the operas "Der Heilige Berg" by Chr. Sinding and "Anne Pedersdotter" by Edvard Fliflet Bræin. Olaf Henzold is the new chief conductor of the orchestra as of this season.

DEN NORSKE OPERAS ORKESTER

I 1959 åpnet Den Norske Opera med et 35 manns orkester under Øivin Fjeldstads ledelse. Musikerne fra Nationaltheatrets orkester utgjorde den gang grunnstammen i Den Norske Operas Orkester. I dag har orkesteret 77 musikere.

Operaorkesteret har gitt konserter i København og Stockholm i tillegg til den øvrige turnévirkosomheten (Berlin, Wiesbaden, Norwich, Santiago de Compostela) CD- og plateinnspillinger inkluderer Melodramaet "Bergljot", sanger av

Grieg, orkesterverker av Johan Halvorsen, operaene "Der Heilige Berg" av Chr. Sinding og "Anne Pedersdotter" av Edvard Fliflet Bræin. Fra inneværende sesong er Olaf Henzold orkesterets sjefdirigent.

GREGOR BÜHL



Gregor Bühl started his conducting studies at the Robert Schumann Hochschule in Düsseldorf. He was chosen by Gerd Albrecht to be his assistant at the Hamburg State Opera from 1991 to 1995. In 1995, he was awarded the second prize of the Nikolai Malko Conductors Competition in Copenhagen. In 1995, he was also rewarded the position of first Kapellmeister at the Hanover State Opera. Gregor Bühl works regularly with the Hamburg State Opera. Other guest engagements include theatres in Stuttgart, Cologne, Lisbon and Gothenburg. During the 2000–2001 season, engagements include guest appearances with Deutsche Oper am Rhein, Komische Oper Berlin, Israel Symphony Orchestra, Radio Symphony Orchestra Hanover, the Norwegian Opera and Trondheim Symphony Orchestra.

Gregor Bühl startet sine direksjonsstudier ved Robert Schumann Hochschule i Düsseldorf. I perioden 1991 - 1995 virket han som assistent for Gerd Albrecht ved Hamburger Staatsoper. I 1995 vant han 2. pris i Nikolai Malko-konkurransen i København. Samme år ble han utnevnt som 1. Kapellmester ved Hannover Staatsoper. Han arbeider nå regelmessig ved Hamburger Staatsoper. Andre gjesteengasjementer omfatter operahus i Stuttgart, Köln, Lisboa og Gøteborg. I løpet av sesongen 2000 - 2001 har han også gjestet Deutsche Oper am Rhein, Komische Oper Berlin, Israel Symfoni-orkester, Hannover Radiosymfoni-orkester og her hjemme, Den Norske Opera og Trondheim Symfoni-orkester.

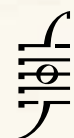


The Queen Sonja International Music Competition
P.O. Box 5190 Majorstuen, 0302 Oslo, Norway
Tel: +47 23 36 70 67, Fax: +47 22 46 36 30
www.nmh.no/sonja.html
sonja@nmh.no



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