

**Celebrity Opera:
Lise Davidsen**

**Sunday
Sep 17
7:30 p.m.
Main Stage**

Lise Davidsen

Soprano

James Baillieu

Piano



Photo Credit: James Hole

Celebrity Opera Recitals at Broad-Stage are generously supported by the Lloyd E. Rigler — Lawrence E. Deutsch Foundation.

Lise Davidsen

Program Information

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

5 Poems, Opus 69:

- I. Der gynger en Båd på Bølge
- II. Til min Dreng
- V. Drømme

Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)

Manon Lescaut

“Sola, perduta, abbandonata”

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Un Ballo in Maschera: Act III scene 1

“Morrò, ma prima in grazia”

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Otello

“Ave Maria”

Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

5 Songs, Op.37

- I. Den första kyssen (The First Kiss)
- IV. Var det en dröm? (Was it a dream?)
- V. Flickan kom i från sin älsklings möte (The girl returned from meeting her lover)

Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

Op. 36, *Svarta Rosor* (Black Roses)

Richard Wagner (1813-1883)

Tannhäuser

“Dich teure Halle”

INTERMISSION

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

La Forza del Destino

“Pace, Pace mio Dio”

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

“An die Musik” (to Music)

“Gretchen am spinnrade” (Gretchen at the Spinning Wheel)

“Erlkönig (D.328)”

“Litanei auf das Fest Allerseelen (D. 343)”

Ludwig von Beethoven (1770-1827)

Fidelio

“Abscheulicher! Wo eilst du hin?... Komm, Hoffnung, lass den letzten Stern”

Emmerich Kalman (1882–1953)

Csárdasfürstin

“Heia, heia in dem Bergen”

Frederick Loewe (1901-1988)

“I Could Have Danced All Night”

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Lise Davidsen

Norwegian soprano **Lise Davidsen**, “opera’s newest star” (The Economist) has taken the classical music world by storm since winning the much coveted Operalia competition in 2015. Her resounding debuts in all the most prestigious international venues have garnered overwhelming critical attention: “It’s been a long time since a singer has generated as much buzz,” wrote Gramophone in 2019 in the review of her debut album for Decca, which debuted at number one in the UK Classical charts, while in 2023 The Telegraph hailed her “the greatest soprano in the world”.

Starting with the Last Night of the Proms at the Royal Albert Hall and a solo recital on the stage of Metropolitan Opera, Davidsen makes many anticipated appearances this season which include two role debuts as *Salome* at the Opéra national de Paris and as Leonora in a new production of *La Forza del Destino* at the Metropolitan Opera, as well as returns to the roles of *Giorgetta Il Tabarro* and *Lisa Queen of Spades*, both at the Bayerische Staatsoper and her first staged *Jenufa* in Chicago. Audiences around the world can see her in recital in Santa Monica at Broad Stage Theatre; the Wiener Staatsoper; Teatro de Zarzuela in Madrid; Wigmore Hall in London and Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia in Valencia. She is also joined by Freddie De Tommaso for gala recitals at Gran Teatre del Liceu and the Salzburg Easter Festival. In concert she performs excerpts of *La Forza del Destino* at Norwegian National Opera; Wagner’s *Wesendonk Lieder* with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and Yannick Nézet-Séguin at Carnegie Hall; and a program of Verdi and Strauss at Teatro Real in Madrid.

The previous season saw Davidsen make three major role debuts: as Marschallin *Der Rosenkavalier* at the Metropolitan Opera, as *Giorgetta Il Tabarro* at Gran Teatre del Liceu and as *Elisabetta Don Carlo* at Royal Opera House, where she also appeared as *Elisabeth Tannhäuser*. In her home country of Norway, she held an

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artistic residency at the Bergen International Festival singing her first *Tosca* in concert and Verdi *Requiem*, as well as masterclasses and a song recital. Other appearances included *Tannhäuser* at Staatsoper under den Linden in Berlin and numerous concert appearances in Paris, Amsterdam, Athens, Barcelona and at the Verbier Festival.

Some of her most notable recent appearances include: the reopening of Teatro alla Scala in Milan with a solo concert under the baton of Maestro Riccardo Chailly; her Bayreuth Festival debut as Elisabeth *Tannhäuser* and then Sieglinde in the new Ring Cycle; a new production of *Fidelio* at Royal Opera House; her debut with the Metropolitan Opera as *Lisa Queen of Spades* followed by *Eva* in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, the title role of *Ariadne auf Naxos*, and Chrysothemis in *Elektra*; a double appearance at the Wiener Staatsoper as Ellen Offord alongside Sir Bryn Terfel and Jonas Kaufmann in an all-star performance of Britten's dramatic opera *Peter Grimes*, as well as Sieglinde *Die Walküre*; *Ariadne auf Naxos* at Aix-en-Provence Festival; Wiener Staatsoper and Glyndebourne Festival and her residency at the Barbican as Artist in Focus, where London audiences saw her in recital with Leif Ove Andsnes; an opera gala evening together with Freddie De Tommaso and pianist James Baillieu and a performance of Berg *Seven Early Songs* together with the Oslo Philharmonic and Klaus Mäkelä.

Despite the Covid crisis, Davidsen's astonishing ascent has been unstoppable: in August 2020 she was one of the first stars featured by the Metropolitan Opera as part of their celebrated series: Met Stars Live in Concert. Davidsen's rendition of *Grieg En Svane and Ved Rondane* from the recital was then broadcast together with the New Year's Speech of King Harald V of Norway and in April 2021 she was a guest on Norway's most popular chat show, Lindmo. Shortly after this in May 2021, she joined Bayerische Staatsoper with a concert performance of the 1st Act of *Die Walküre* alongside Jonas Kaufmann, and in the same week was awarded Female Singer of the Year by the International Opera Awards. Further highlights include Sieglinde *Die Walküre* in a new production at Deutsche Oper Berlin and in concert at Opera de Paris; the title role of *Jenůfa* at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam; Elisabeth *Tannhäuser* at Bayerische Staatsoper; a return to Bayreuth in Tobias Kratzer's production of *Tannhäuser*

and concert performances of *Die Walküre*; as well as a Strauss film project with the Norwegian National Opera. On the recital platform, her appearances include recitals at home in Oslo, for the Norwegian National Opera, in Germany at the Konzerthaus Dortmund, in Spain at the Palau de les Arts Valencia; and together with Leif Ove Andsnes in Trondheim and Rosendal Chamber Music Festival in Norway.

Her discography includes two solo orchestral recitals on Decca, a recording of Grieg songs together with fellow Norwegian Leif Ove Andsnes and the Grammy nominated Concert for Ukraine together with Metropolitan Opera. She has also recorded *Der Freischütz* and *Fidelio*, both released on Pentatone and Sibelius *Luonnotar* on Chandos.

Davidsen has graced the covers of numerous publications and her many prizes and awards include the 2022 Opera News Awards, 2021 Female Singer of the Year by the International Opera Awards; 2020 Anders Jahres Art and Culture Prize, 2018 Gramophone Young Artist of the Year Award, Statoil Talent Bursary Award, Léonie Sonning Music Prize and the 2015 Kirstin Flagstad Award. In August 2020 she was one of the first stars featured by the Metropolitan Opera as part of their celebrated series: Met Stars Live in Concert. Davidsen's rendition of *Grieg En Svane and Ved Rondane* from the recital was then broadcast together with the New Year's Speech of King Harald V of Norway and in April 2021 she was a guest on Norway's most popular chat show, Lindmo.

A 2014 graduate of the Opera Academy in Copenhagen, she has studied under Susanna Eken, previously gaining a degree from the Grieg Academy of Music in Bergen. In 2015, Davidsen was crowned winner of both the Operalia and the Queen Sonja competitions. Her breakthrough performances won her the First Prize, the Birgit Nilsson Award and the Audience Prize at the Operalia competition in London as well as the prize for the best performance of Norwegian music and the Ingrid Bjoner Scholarship at the Queen Sonja International Music Competition. She is also a triple winner at the 2015 Hans Gabor Belvedere Singing Competition in Amsterdam.

James Baillieu

Described by The Daily Telegraph as 'in a class of his own' **James Baillieu** is one of the leading song and chamber music pianists of his generation. He has given

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solo and chamber recitals throughout the world and collaborates with a wide range of singers and instrumentalists including Benjamin Appl, Jamie Barton, Ian Bostridge, Allan Clayton, Annette Dasch, Lise Davidsen, the Elias and Heath Quartets, Dame Kiri te Kanawa, Adam Walker, and Pretty Yende. As a soloist, he has appeared with the Ulster Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra, and the Wiener Kammer-symphonie.

European highlights of the 2022-23 season include recitals with Lise Davidsen at the Bergen International Festival, a European tour of an all-Hahn program with Veronique Gens, performances in the United Kingdom and Spain with violist Timothy Ridout, and a fully-produced staged presentation of *Winterreise* with Benjamin Appl at the Gran Teatre del Liceu designed by Spanish painter and sculptor Antonio López.

North American appearances of the current season include a recital with violinist Tamsin Waley-Cohen in a program of C.P.E. Bach presented by San Francisco Performances, tour dates with baritone Benjamin Appl in Detroit, New York City, Portland, San Francisco, and Vancouver, and a pair of recitals with tenor Allan Clayton at the Park Avenue Armory, New York.

James is a frequent guest at many of the world's most distinguished music centres including Carnegie Hall, Wigmore Hall, Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Vancouver Playhouse, Berlin Konzerthaus, Vienna Musikverein, the Barbican Centre, Wiener Konzerthaus, Bozar Brussels, Pierre Boulez Saal, Cologne Philharmonie, and the Laeiszhalle Hamburg. Festivals include Aix-en-Provence, Verbier, Schleswig-Holstein, Festspillene i Bergen, Edinburgh, Spitalfields, Aldeburgh, Cheltenham, Bath, City of London and Brighton Festivals.

An innovative programmer, he has curated many song and chamber music festivals including series for the Brighton Festival, Wigmore Hall, BBC Radio 3, Verbier Festival, Bath International Festival, and Perth Concert Hall.

At the invitation of John Gilhooly, James Baillieu has presented his own series at the Wigmore Hall with Adam Walker, Jonathan McGovern, Ailish Tynan, Tara Erraught, Henk Neven, Iestyn Davies, Allan Clayton, and Mark Padmore amongst others. This series was shortlisted for the Royal Philharmonic Society's Chamber Music and Song Award for an outstanding

contribution to the performance of chamber music and song in the UK.

James was prize winner of the Wigmore Hall Song Competition, Das Lied International Song Competition, the Kathleen Ferrier and Richard Tauber Competitions, and was selected for representation by Young Classical Artists Trust (YCAT) in 2010 and in 2012 received a Borletti-Buitoni Trust Fellowship and a Geoffrey Parsons Memorial Trust Award. In 2016 he was shortlisted for the Royal Philharmonic Society Outstanding Young Artist Award.

Recording projects include 'Heimat' with Benjamin Appl (Sony Classical), the complete works of CPE Bach for violin and piano with Tamsin Waley-Cohen (Signum Records), and albums on the Chandos, Opus Arte, Champs Hill, Rubicon, and Delphian Record labels as part his critically acclaimed discography.

James Baillieu is a Professor at the Royal Academy of Music, a coach for the Jette Parker Young Artist Program at the Royal Opera House, a course leader for the Samling Foundation, and is head of the Song Program at the Atelier Lyrique of the Verbier Festival Academy. He is International Tutor in Piano Accompaniment at the Royal Northern College of Music and a trustee of the Countess of Munster Musical Trust. Highly sought after for masterclasses worldwide, recent sessions of learning have brought him to the Aldeburgh Festival, Cleveland Institute of Music, Metropolitan Opera Lindemann Young Artist Development Program, Friends of Chamber Music, Portland, Oregon, Vancouver Academy of Music, Canada, and to the University of Waikato, New Zealand.