

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Anne Sofie von Otter, *mezzo-soprano* Bengt Forsberg, *piano*

Wednesday, October 19, 2005, 8 pm
Zellerbach Hall

PROGRAM

- Jean Sibelius Till Kvällen, Op. 17, No. 6
(A. V. Forsman-Koskimies)
Demanten på marssnön, Op. 36, No. 6
(J. J. Wecksell)
Vilse 17, No. 4 (K. A. Tavaststjerna)
Hertig Magnus Op. 57, No. 6 (Ernst Josephson)
Kaiutar Op. 72, No. 4 (Larin-Kyösti)
- Wilhelm Peterson-Berger *Marits visor*, Op. 12 (Bjørnstierna Bjørnson) (1896)
Kom bukken til gutten
Solen skinner vakkert om kvælden
Holder du af mig
- Henri Dutilleux piano piece t.b.a.
- Olivier Messiaen *Trois mélodies*
Pourquoi? (Messiaen)
Le sourire (Cécile Sauvage)
La fiancée perdue (Messiaen)
- Reynaldo Hahn Chanson au bord de la fontaine (Maurice Magre)
Quand je fus pris au pavillon (Charles d'Orleans)
À Chloris (Théophile de Viau)

INTERMISSION

- Gustav Mahler *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen*
Wenn mein Schatz Hochzeit macht
Ging heut' morgen übers Feld
Ich hab' ein glühend Messer
Die zwei blauen Augen
Piano piece t.b.a.
- Percy Grainger Folksong settings
The Sprig of Thyme
Died for Love
British Waterside
- Howard Ferguson From Five Irish Folksongs, Op. 17
Calen-o
The Swan
I'm from over the Mountain

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Anne Sofie von Otter, mezzo-soprano is considered one of the finest singers of her generation and is sought after by many of the major conductors, orchestras, opera and recording companies of the world. Born in Sweden, her studies began in Stockholm and continued with Vera Rozsa at London's Guildhall. She commenced her professional career as a principal member of the Basel Opera before she was launched on an international career that has now spanned more than two decades. She is particularly renowned for her interpretation of Octavian in *Der Rosenkavalier*, a role she has not only recorded for EMI with Bernard Haitink, but also performed in Stockholm, Munich, Chicago, Covent Garden and at the Paris Bastille, as well as in Vienna, at the Met and in Japan with the late Carlos Kleiber (the latter available on DVD).

Von Otter has scored many personal successes on the main operatic stages of Europe: Glück's *Orfeo* in Geneva was followed by his *Alceste* at the Chatelet, in a highly-acclaimed staging by Robert Wilson, conducted by Sir John Eliot Gardiner (recorded for both CD and DVD); Paris's Palais Garnier played host to portrayals of Handel's *Ariodante* as well as Sesto in both *La clemenza di Tito* and *Giulio Cesare* and most recently Clairon in the new production of Strauss's *Capriccio* by Robert Carsen. In addition to Octavian at the Vienna State Opera she sang the Composer in *Ariadne auf Naxos*; Nerone in Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea* was heard at the Aix-en-Provence Festival, and Ottavia in the same piece at the Théâtre de Champs-Élysées in Paris, the same venue as her debut in Handel's *Xerxes* (also recorded by EMI Classics). Another Handel role, Ruggerio in *Alcina*, marked her return to Stockholm's famous Drottningholm Festival, and Glyndebourne Festival was the venue for her stage debut as Carmen in a new production by David McVicar, conducted by Philippe Jordan.

Von Otter also enjoys an ongoing relationship with New York's Metropolitan Opera, where she has sung numerous performances of *Der Rosenkavalier*, *La clemenza di Tito* and *Idomeneo* as well as Debussy's *Pelléas et Mélisande*, marking her stage debut in the role.

A frequent performer of opera in concert, von

Otter has recorded live Debussy's *Melisande* (ON de France/Haitink for Naive); Judith/*Bluebeard's Castle* (BPO/Haitink for EMI); Charlotte/*Werther* (Opéra de Lyon/Nagano for Erato); *Ariodante*, *Hercules*, Sesto/*Giulio Cesare* (Musiciens du Louvre/Minkowski) and Baba the Turk/*Rake's Progress* (LSO/Gardiner) all for DG Archiv.

An equally busy concert career has taken von Otter regularly to the major halls of Europe and North America and she enjoys a regular partnership with some of the world's pre-eminent conductors. Also an acclaimed recitalist, she performs around the globe with her accompanist, Bengt Forsberg.

An exclusive recording artist with Deutsche Grammophon, von Otter boasts an extensive personal discography. With Bengt Forsberg she has made a number of award-winning recital and chamber music discs; with orchestras she has recorded Weill and Zemlinsky (Gardiner), Berlioz and Brahms (Levine), Mozart (Pinnock), Berg, Schubert and Mahler (Abbado), Ravel and Mahler (Boulez) and Offenbach (Minkowski). Her opera catalogue includes *Dorabella* with Solti, Monteverdi's *Ottavia*, Glück's *Orfeo* as well as Sesto and *Idamante* with Gardiner, Marguerite with Chung and Strauss's *Composer* with Sinopoli. A collaboration with the songwriter, arranger and producer Elvis Costello resulted in the award-winning *For the Stars; Mots d'amour*, a disc dedicated to the music of Cécile Chaminade, which won a Gramophone Award, and the recent *Orchestrated Schubert Lieder* with Abbado, which won a Grammy. Current releases include *Watercolours*, a collection of Scandinavian song following the successful *Wings in the Night* and *Music for a While*, a baroque recital with harpsichord and lute.

Projects in the current season include Glück's *Orphée et Eurydice* in Munich and *Carmen* at the Santa Fe Festival; concerts with Jordan, Minkowski, von Dohnanyi, Gilbert, Sir Colin Davis, Oramo and Abbado; recitals in the USA, Japan and throughout Europe.

Swedish pianist **Bengt Forsberg** studied at the Gothenburg College of Music, majoring both in piano and organ. As a soloist, chamber musician and accompanist, Bengt Forsberg enjoys

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promoting music by lesser-known composers such as Medtner, Alkan and Franz Schmidt as well as rarely heard music by more well-known figures such as Fauré, Sibelius and Franck. His repertoire of both well-known and unknown composers is wide and varied, and the running of his own Chamber Music Society in Stockholm helps him promote this music.

Together with Anne Sofie von Otter, Bengt Forsberg has made recordings of songs by composers as diverse as Strauss, Korngold, Stenhammar, Schumann, Weill, Chaminade and Grieg, all on the Deutsche Grammophon label.

Bengt Forsberg has also made several highly praised recordings for Hyperion with Swedish cellist Mats Lidström as well as solo recordings of piano music by Schubert, Schumann, late-Romantic Swedish composers, as well as various chamber music recordings.

Bengt Forsberg has traveled the world for recital

tours and chamber music concerts, including a three-concert showcase at New York's Alice Tully Hall for which he had the dual role of Artistic Advisor and performer, and was guest artist for two consecutive years to the Perth Chamber Music Festival in Australia.

Solo engagements have included Stravinsky's Piano Concerto in Gothenburg, Medtner's Piano Concerto No. 2 with the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra, Bernstein's *Symphony No. 2*, *Sinfonie cévenole* by d'Indy and concertos by Mozart, Beethoven and Martinu. Forsberg appears regularly at many of the world's international Festivals, including a leading role in the recent Dutilleux Festival in Stockholm.

Forsberg has planned recitals with Anne Sofie von Otter in the current season in Paris, Basel, Vienna, Gothenburg, New York, Dresden, Prague, Reykjavik, at the Istanbul Festival and at London's Wigmore Hall.

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