



Lise Davidsen Soprano



Norwegian soprano Lise Davidsen, hailed by the *The Economist* as “opera’s newest star”, 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 the review of her debut album for Decca, which debuted at number one in the UK Classical charts. Released on 31 May 2019, her recordings of music by Strauss and Wagner inspired the magazine to declare that “she is one of the greatest vocal talents to have emerged in recent years, if not decades.” Since then, she has released two further solo albums on the label to equal acclaim: an orchestral recital featuring Beethoven, Wagner, Verdi and a stunning Grieg recital together with with famed Norwegian pianist Leif Ove Andsnes.

This season, Davidsen’s many highlights include starring in the BBC’s much coveted Last Night of the Proms, the biggest classical music event in Britain; three major roles 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 appears as Elisabeth *Tannhäuser*; and an artistic residency at the Bergen International Festival where she can be heard singing her first *Tosca* in concert and Verdi *Requiem* as well as masterclasses and a song recital. Other appearances include *Tannhäuser* at Staatsoper under den Linden in Berlin and numerous concert appearances in Paris, Amsterdam, Athens, Barcelona and at the Verbier Festival.

Last season saw her make a triple appearance at the Metropolitan Opera as Eva in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, the title role of *Ariadne auf Naxos*, and as Chrysothemis in *Elektra*. She returned twice to 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*; and Leonore *Fidelio* at Maggio Musicale in Florence under the baton of Zubin Mehta. On the concert platform, she joined Klaus Mäkelä and the Orchestra de Paris for Strauss Op. 27 and was an Artist in Focus at the Barbican, 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 as well as a public masterclass with the students of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama. She also made her debut with the Berliner Philharmoniker and Kirill Petrenko with Zemlinsky *Lyrical Symphony* and toured together with Leif Ove Andsnes in Madrid, Munich, Vienna, Berlin and at the Bergen and Turku Festivals, earning rapturous reviews for their recital of Grieg, Strauss and Wagner songs. Her solo concerts included Hamburg State Opera, Moscow and the Peralada Festival and in summer 2022 she made another triumphant return to Bayreuth Festival, starring as Sieglinde in the much anticipated new *Ring* tetralogy and as Elisabeth *Tannhäuser*.

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 re-opened the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, with a solo concert under the baton of Maestro Riccardo Chailly, and 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.

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Further recent highlights include her widely acclaimed company debut with the Metropolitan Opera as Lisa *Queen of Spades*, a role she also sang in Stuttgart; Leonore *Fidelio* in a new production at the Royal Opera House and in concert with Yannick Nezet Seguin and Opéra de Montreal; Elisabeth *Tannhäuser* at Opernhaus Zürich, Bayerische Staatsoper, and in a triumphant debut at the Bayreuth Festival, where she was hailed by the international press as a "voice once in a century"; the title role in *Ariadne auf Naxos* at Aix-en-Provence Festival; Wiener Staatsoper and Glyndebourne Festival; Agathe in a new production of *Der Freischütz* at Opernhaus Zürich; Cherubini's *Medea* at Wexford Festival; Santuzza *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Sancta Susanna* in Oslo; and Isabella *Das Liebesverbot* at Teatro Colon.

Recent concert appearances include Ellen Orford *Peter Grimes* at the Enescu Festival; Beethoven Symphony No. 9 with Gianandrea Noseda and the Wiener Symphoniker for their New Year's Eve celebration; Verdi *Requiem* at the BBC Proms with the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Andrés Orozco Estrada, at the Royal Opera House with Sir Antonio Pappano, with the Danish National Symphony Orchestra and Fabio Luisi, and the Philharmonia Orchestra and Bergen Philharmonic both under Edward Gardner; Strauss Op. 27 with Philharmonia and Esa-Pekka Salonen at the BBC Proms and at the Edinburgh International Festival with the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra and Vasily Petrenko; Strauss *Vier letzte Lieder* with Orchestre de Paris; the Danish National Symphony Orchestra, the Stavanger Orchestra, Copenhagen Philharmonic, and the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra; *Die Walküre* (1st Act) with the Danish National Symphony Orchestra and Fabio Luisi and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Sir Andrew Davis and with the Antwerp Symphony Orchestra and Edo de Waart; Wagner *Wesendonck Lieder* and *Rückert-Lieder* with the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra; and Sibelius *Luonnotar* with the BBC Philharmonic at the BBC Proms. Davidsen was an Artist in Residence with Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra during the 2017-18 season when her appearances included an open-air concert, Verdi *Requiem* and *Wesendonck Lieder* as well as recital performances. Her many recitals include London (Barbican and the Wigmore Hall), Oslo, Copenhagen and Bergen.

Her discography includes two solo orchestral recitals on Decca as well as a recording of Grieg songs together with fellow Norwegian Leif Ove Andsnes; and complete recordings of *Der Freischütz* and *Fidelio*, both released on Pentatone and Sibelius *Luonnotar* on Chandos.

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 and a recipient of many awards, including the HSBC Aix-en-Provence Laureate, Statoil Talent Bursary Award, Léonie Sonning Music Prize, Danish Singers Award 2014 and the Kirstin Flagstad Award 2015. In 2018, Davidsen was presented with the prestigious Young Artist of the Year Award at the Gramophone Classical Music Awards.

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Lise Davidsen is represented by MWA in association with Intermusica worldwide.