

MASTERCLASS WITH BEN HEPPNER

OSCARSHALL PALACE

AUGUST 15, 2017

Siyabonga Maqungo
Tenor, South Africa
Beethoven - Adelaide

Kang Wang
Tenor, Australia
Liszt – Pace non trovo

Christian Valle
Bass-baritone, Norway
Verdi - Macbeth

Galeano Salas
Tenor, Mexico
Donizetti – La fille du regiment

Lina Braaten, piano

BEN HEPPNER is a Canadian singer, known as one of the finest dramatic tenors of today. He excels in the most challenging roles and is acclaimed in music capitals around the world for his beautiful voice, intelligent musicianship and sparkling dramatic sense. Ben Heppner retired from singing in 2014 and is currently working as a broadcaster for CBC radio, as well as coaching singers and conducting masterclasses.

In this masterclass, Ben Heppner will work with four of the semifinalists of The Queen Sonja International Music Competition 2017. The masterclass focuses on the art of singing and is meant to provide the audience with a unique insight into the kind of work that lies behind great musical performances.

LINA BRAATEN is a répétiteur at The Norwegian Opera Academy in Oslo, and works as an accompanist at the Norwegian Academy of Music. She is a highly regarded accompanist both for singers and instrumentalists. She has won prizes for chamber music performance and as a solo pianist, including first prize in the Nordic Lied Duo Competition.

OSCARSHALL PALACE was built on the initiative of King Oscar I to be used by the Royal Family when they arrived from Stockholm to stay in Christiania (later Oslo). The King was a keen connoisseur of the arts, and made great efforts to support Norwegian art and handicrafts. A great many of Norway's best known and most promising artists contributed in the decoration and furnishing of Oscarshall, making it a unique monument to Norwegian art from the mid-19th century. Since its opening in 1852, it has stood as a supreme example of a *Château de plaisance* and through the following decades it was in frequent use for various festivities, receptions, jubilee celebrations, musical entertainment – and fireworks. The Palace is open to the public every summer.