



The Sixty-seventh Season of
The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin
Concerts

National Gallery of Art
2,697th Concert

New York Opera Society
Mariann Fjeld Olsen, *soprano*
Siv Iren Misund, *mezzo-soprano*
Didrik Solli Tangen, *tenor*
Patrik Landgren, *baritone*
Danielle DeSwert, *piano*

Presented in conjunction with the
Norwegian Christmas Festival at Union Station

December 14, 2008
Sunday Evening, 6:30 pm
West Building, West Garden Court

Admission free

*This concert is made possible in part by a grant from
the Royal Norwegian Embassy.*

Program

Performed without intermission

Part I: Scandinavian songs

Edvard Grieg (1843–1907)

Jeg elsker Dig

En Svane

En Drøm

Våren

Christian Sinding (1856–1941)

Rav

Jean Sibelius (1865–1957)

Flickan kom ifrån sin älsklings möte

Wilhelm Peterson-Berger (1867–1942)

Böljebyvals

Gustaf Nordqvist (1886–1949)

Till havs

August Söderman (1832–1876)

Kung Heimer och Aslög

Part II: Familiar operatic selections

Giacomo Puccini (1858–1924)

Chi il bel sogno di Doretta

From *La Rondine*

Jacques Offenbach (1819–1880)

Belle nuit, o nuit d'amour

From *Les Contes d'Hoffman*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)

La ci darem la mano

From *Don Giovanni*

Soave sia il vento

From *Così fan tutte*

Salvatore Cardillo (1874–1947)

Core 'ngrato

Antonin Dvořák (1841–1904)

Měsíčku na nebi hlubokém

From *Rusalka*

Eduardo di Capua (1865–1917)

O sole mio

Georges Bizet (1838–1875)

Pres des ramparts de Seville

Votre toast, je peux le rendre

From *Carmen*

Part III: Jul (Scandinavian Christmas songs)

The performers will announce their selections,
taken from the songs listed below.

Mitt hjerte alltid vanker

Jul, jul, strålande jul

Koppången

O helga natt

Glade jul

Deilig er jorden

Jeg synger julekvad

Jeg gikk meg over sjø og land

The Musicians

NEW YORK OPERA SOCIETY

The New York Opera Society (NYOS) benefits artists and audiences alike through high quality, performance-driven, just-in-time productions here and abroad, offering fresh and sometimes provocative interpretations of contemporary and classical works. In its current season, NYOS has already featured acclaimed Liederabends with Dutch baritone Hans Pieter Herman, a new production of Falstaff under the baton of Emmanuel Plasson for its southern France festival, and a contemporary Spanish opera at the United Nations. NYOS regularly hosts an annual festival in southwest France, a Salon Series, an “International Artist in Residence” program, “Outreach in Underserved Communities,” and a training program, “Jeunes Solistes.” Its artistic endeavors regularly involve local practitioners, organizations, and musicians. The Society is led by a dedicated and select Board of Directors and Jennifer Cho, a dual degree alumna of the Northwestern University School of Music and College of Arts and Sciences, who has received numerous awards for her work in music since completing her studies with distinction.

MARIANN FJELD OLSEN

Norwegian soprano Mariann Fjeld Olsen graduated from the University College of Opera in Stockholm, Sweden, in December 2004. She has since sung lead roles at opera houses in Norway and Sweden, including Confidencen/Ulriksdal’s Royal Theatre in Stockholm, The Folk Opera and The Royal Opera in Stockholm, Malmö Opera and Music Theatre, and the Norwegian National Opera. In 2007 Olsen was the first prize winner of both the Malmö vocal competition and the national finals of the Queen Sonja Music Competition. She also won the Joel Berglund prize in 2003 and the Jenny Lind scholarship in Stockholm in 2004, which led to a recital tour in the United States. She was recently awarded a prize by “Concerts Norway,” leading to a two-year series of recitals in that country and abroad.

SIV IREN MISUND

Norwegian mezzo-soprano Siv Iren Misund graduated from the Norwegian Academy of Music in 2007 with a masters in performing arts. Since then she has sung recitals in and around Oslo, participated in several festivals, including Asolo Songfestival (Italy), the London Song Festival, and Oslo Operafestival, and has sung the role of Mercedes in Bizet's *Carmen*. She is currently studying with the American countertenor Michael Harper in London and working as a freelance singer.

DIDRIK SOLLI TANGEN

Didrik Solli Tangen is a 21-year-old tenor from Porsgrunn, Norway. He proved his talent at an early age, when, at sixteen, he won the grand prize at his school—the Children's Grand Prix in Skien—and was chosen to attend the Youth Cultural Meeting in Trondheim. The lead singer of his own pop band, he began lessons in opera and classical singing with Anders Vangen in 2004. Tangen has toured the United States with the big band Suoni, and has performed Guttorm Guttormsen's opera buffa *Fævlane veit*. This year he received scholarships from the Norwegian lottery company, Norsk Tipping, and Thorild Staahlen.

PATRIK LANDGREN

Baritone Patrik Landgren was born in Gothenburg, Sweden, in 1974. Following his studies at The Opera Studio Sweden in Stockholm (Operastudio 67), he attended the Oslo National Academy of Arts, completing a certificate in opera in 2006. As a student he worked with conductor Kjell Ingebretsen in a production of *Così fan tutte*, and his teachers were Henry Herford, Jan Sødal, and Ingvar Wixell. In 2005 Landgren sang the role of Black Bob in Britten's *Let's Make an Opera* at the National Opera in Oslo as well as additional roles as Escamillo in *Carmen*, Lescaut in *Manon Lescaut*, Uberto in *La Serva Padrona*, and Count Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro*. He is currently a freelance opera, oratorio, and concert singer in Oslo.

DANIELLE DESWERT

Brussels-born pianist Danielle DeSwert is a freelance collaborative pianist and coach and the music program specialist at the National Gallery of Art. In 2003 DeSwert did all musical preparation for the world premiere of *Pontalba*, presented by the New Orleans Opera Society. She worked closely with composer Thea Musgrave, who wrote the opera to commemorate the bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase. From 2004–2006 she was the principal repetiteur with the Baltimore Opera Company and Washington Concert Opera. She is currently the principal pianist with the Inscape Chamber Music Project and a member of the National Gallery’s resident piano trio. She holds a master of music degree from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where she studied with Martin Katz, and a bachelor of music degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She also studied with Warren Jones and Anne Epperson at the Music Academy of the West and was an apprentice coach with the Washington Opera, working with Placido Domingo.

Danielle DeSwert will be heard again at the Gallery next week, when she performs Ernest Bloch’s *Concerto Grosso no. 1 for String Orchestra with Piano Obligato* with the National Gallery Orchestra, Dingwall Fleary conducting.

Program Notes

This concert marks the sixth time that the National Gallery of Art and the Royal Norwegian Embassy have collaborated on a concert in connection with the Norwegian Christmas Festival at Union Station. Participating guest musicians have included accordionist Kier Draugsvoll, the chamber choir Nordic Voices, conductor Bjarte Engeset, pianist Håvard Gimse, soprano Ise Katharina Gericke, and violinist Henning Kraggerud. The festival, now in its eleventh year, provides the nation's capital with a taste of Norway through concerts, exhibits, a holiday bazaar, and special menus at Union Station and other venues throughout the city. To launch each year's festival, a thirty-two-foot Christmas tree is erected and decorated at Union Station—a gift from Norway to the people of Washington. The tree symbolizes the friendship between the two countries and expresses Norway's gratitude for assistance received from the United States during World War II. More information on the Norwegian Christmas Festival is available at www.norway.org/xmas.

The Sixty-seventh Season of Concerts at the National Gallery of Art

December 2008–January 2009

All concerts in the West Building, West Garden Court*

DECEMBER

- 21 **Alessandra Marc, soprano**
With the National Gallery
Chamber Orchestra;
Stephen Ackert and Dingwall
Fleary, guest conductors;
Danielle DeSwert and
Lawrence Schreiber, pianists.
Music by Ernest Bloch and
other composers. Presented
in honor of *Oceans, Rivers,
and Skies: Ansel Adams, Robert
Adams, and Alfred Stieglitz*
- 28 **National Gallery Orchestra**
Manfred Knoop, guest conductor
New Year Concert

JANUARY

- 4 **National Gallery String Quartet
with Menahem Pressler, pianist**
Music by Mozart and Schumann
- 11 **Ma'alot Wind Quintet**
Music by Barber, Ligeti,
Mendelssohn, and Piazzolla.
Presented in conjunction with
the *Mendelssohn on the Mall*
anniversary celebration
Preceded at 6:00 pm by a preconcert
talk by Christopher With on
Mendelssohn's drawings
(West Building Lecture Hall)
- 18 **National Gallery Orchestra**
Kenneth Slowik, guest conductor
Music by Mendelssohn and Schubert.
Presented in conjunction with
Mendelssohn on the Mall
- 25 **Fine Arts Quartet**
String Quartets by Mendelssohn
Presented in conjunction with
Mendelssohn on the Mall

* unless otherwise indicated

The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed. Please be sure that cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices are turned off.

Please note that late entry or reentry of the West Building after 6:30 pm is not permitted.

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