



Bror Magnus Tødenes: Remembering Jussi

ADOLPHE C. ADAM: O helga natt · CARL LEOPOLD SJÖBERG: Tonerna · EDVARD GRIEG: Jeg elsker Dig · En Drøm · En Svane · Stambogstrim · GEORGES BIZET: "La fleur que tu m'avais jeté" (Carmen) · GIACOMO PUCCINI: "Che gelida manina" (La bohème) · "E lucevan le stelle" (Tosca) · "Nessun Dorma" (Turandot) · "Addio fiorito asil" (Madama Butterfly) · GUSTAF NORDQVIST: Till havs · JEAN SIBELIUS: Flickan kom ifrån sin älsklings möte · Demanten på marssnön · PETER TCHAIKOVSKY: Lensky's aria "Kuda, kuda" (Eugene Onegin) · RENATO RASCEL: Arrivederci Roma · UMBERTO GIORDANO: "Amor ti vieta" (Fedora)

Bror Magnus Tødenes, tenor · Håvard Gimse, piano · Norwegian Radio Orchestra · Ingar Bergby, conductor

– An excellent debut disc from a very talented young singer. [Göran Forsling / MusicWeb]

Reviving the legacy of Jussi Björling, Bror ('brother' in Norwegian) Magnus is the heart-warming tenor from the North! For a singer to make his recording debut at only 21 he needs a combination of extraordinary talent, the ability to work really hard and of course – courage. Bror Magnus Tødenes has it all – and more.

It is just four years since Bror Magnus began singing. This autumn he started studies at Conservatorio di Musica St. Cecilia Roma, immersing himself further into the Italian opera and Bel Canto style with among others Professor Elizabeth Norberg-Schultz. The word is getting out about this extraordinary talented boy and he has just been accepted on to the Young Artist Programme at the Salzburg Festival for 2015.

It all started as a bet – "classical singing was rather... remote to me"

A typical adolescence, with a background of playing guitar in pop/rock bands, and piano, Bror Magnus arrived at music high-school where to his dismay he also had to take singing lessons. When the teacher heard Bror Magnus's voice, even if it was only 'mock-singing', she was totally overwhelmed. She challenged him to audition as a singer onto the Talent Program at the Music Department in Trondheim (NTNU). If he got in, which he was sure he wouldn't, he promised her he would go all-in for classical song. And now the young man from Selvåg, on the remote fjord lined coastline of mid-western Norway, is finding his way in the classical arena – much to his own surprise.

Favourite arias and more

When asked about further inspirations, Bror Magnus is quick to mention both Enrico Caruso and Beniamino Gigli, especially when it comes to his favourite arias in the Italian repertoire. However, he also includes the hit 'O Holy Night' in the Swedish text version Jussi made so popular. And Bror Magnus takes it all one step further by including a sparkling version of 'Arrivederci Roma' from the 1955 film classic, immortalized by Mario Lanza. The Norwegian Radio Orchestra led by Ingar Bergby provide all the gusto you could want for.

Nordic songs

A generous handful of Nordic songs are of course present in such a debut as this one. Two of Jussi Björling's Swedish signatures 'Tonerna' and 'Till Havs', two of Sibelius' most well known and four by Grieg find their place here. All given beautiful heartfelt readings by Bror Magnus and the outstanding Håvard Gimse.

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"Salzburg Young Singers Project"

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"– Tødenes' debutplate med Kringkastingsorkesteret og Håvard Gimse som makkere er full av musikalsk overskudd og vågemot. Tenoren på 21 år vil vi garantert høre mer til i årene som kommer. [Årets Utgivelser / Vårt Land]"



"– det som gjør denne platen nærmest sensasjonell er hans stemmekvaliteter. Jeg tror rett og slett ikke at jeg har hørt en så vakker norsk tenor. [Magnus Anderson / Klassekampen]"

"– La meg bøye meg i støvet for den mest fantastiske stemmebegavelsen som har sett dagens lys i Norge på mange, mange decennier. [Kjell Hillveg / Dagsavisen]"



"– han är verkligen begåvad med en vacker, stark och uttrycksfull röst. Allra bäst låter han i Lenskijs aria ur Tjajkovskijs "Eugen Onegin". [Tobias Lund / Sydsvenskan]"

"– He has a pure, beautiful, flexible voice, with brilliant top register, excellent enunciation and nuanced readings. His elegant diminuendo is a characteristic as well as his ability to expand at powerful moments with true spinto tones. [Göran Forsling / MusicWeb]"

"– Et spennende talent som kan bringe arven etter Jussi videre til enda flere, er den norske tenoren Bror Magnus Tødenes fra Eiksund. Tødenes fikk nettopp Statoils store talentstipend på en million kroner. Debutplaten hans heter «Remembering Jussi» og viser en sanger som har stor kunstnerisk kompetanse og personlig ydmykhet. Nettopp det som skal til for å lykkes. Virkelig gode tenorer er sjelden vare og er kanskje den tøffeste utfordringen i den klassiske bransjen. [Espen Selvik / Dagbladet]"