



Benedikt Kristjánsson

Tenor

Benedikt Kristjánsson was born in Húsavík, Iceland. He started his singing lessons at age of 16 with his mother Margrét Bóasdóttir, at the Reykjavík Academy of Singing and Vocal Arts and he graduated from the Reykjavík Conservatory of Music in 2007. For six years he was a member of the high school choir "Hamrahlíðarkórinn" also with solo appearances. He studied with Professor Scot Weir at the Hochschule für Musik "Hanns Eisler" Berlin, and graduated with honors.

He participated in Masterclasses with Christa Ludwig, Peter Schreier, Elly Ameling, Robert Holl, Thomas Quasthoff, Andreas Schmidt and Helmut Deutsch.

Benedikt won the 1st Prize of the International Bach Vocal Competition in Greifswald in 2011 and was also awarded the Audience Prize. He was the Winner of the Audience Award in the International Bach Competition in Leipzig 2012. With Guitarist Sergio Coto-Blanco he won the third Prize of the International Competition for Chamber Music with Guitar 2010 in Aschaffenburg. He was awarded with the Prize of "The most promising young artist" in Classical/ Modern Music at the Icelandic Music Awards in 2012 and was granted a scholarship from the Jean Pierre Jaquilliat Foundation in Reykjavik in 2012.

Benedikt has performed as the Evangelist and sung the tenor arias in the Bach's Passion and other Oratorios in Reykjavik, Berlin, Oslo, Zürich, Den Haag, and Jerusalem.

As a concert singer he has also performed many of the Works by Benjamin Britten, such as the Serenade for Tenor, Horn & Strings, and the St. Nicholas Cantata.

In December 2012, Benedikt sang the title role in the Children's Opera "Das tapfere Schneiderlein" from Wolfgang Mitterer at the Staatsoper Berlin, as well as the title role of Janacek's "Diary of the one who Disappeared". At Theater Kiel he sung in the Production of "Atys" by Jean-Baptiste Lully.

He gave many Lied Recitals with Schumann's Dichterliebe and Schubert's "Die schöne Müllerin" in Iceland and Germany.

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Photo: Andreas Labes