

## Valer Sabadus – Season 17/18

With his crystal clear and androgynous voice, Valer Sabadus is well established within the ranks of the world's top countertenors. For the two-time winner of the ECHO Classic Award, the spotlight in the 2017/18 opera season will be on Händel, Cavalli and Monteverdi: in the role of Giuliano, he celebrates his debut at the Dutch National Opera in October with the premiere of Cavalli's opera, "Eliogabalo" – a co-production with the Opéra National de Paris where he assumed this same role in last year's successful production under the baton of conductor, Leonardo Garcia Alarcon. As of January 2018, Valer Sabadus can be heard at the Opéra National de Paris as the Angel in Händel's "Jephta". This is followed by performances of the repeat production of Cavalli's "Il Giasone" at the Opéra Royal de Versailles in the title role – a role he sung previously in the successful production at the Grand Théâtre de Genève, and will sing there again this season. The countertenor will wrap up the opera season in June with his debut at the Opernhaus Zürich in the role of Nerone in Monteverdi's "L'Incoronazione di Poppea".

On the concert stage, Valer Sabadus will make his debut appearance in Russia in November. Together with Concerto Köln and a Farinelli solo program that will be released on CD by Sony Classical in the autumn of 2018, he will perform concerts in Moscow and St. Petersburg. At the end of November, he will embark on a concert tour with the Basel Chamber Orchestra and Nuria Rial with the Sony CD program, "Sacred Duets", including appearances at the Händelfestspiele Halle and in Stuttgart. With the Millennium Orchestra under Leonardo García Alarcón, the countertenor will make guest appearances in e.g. Brussels and Versailles in the spring of 2018 with a program of sacred works. This season's program also includes numerous solo concerts.

Just released by ERATO, the artist's latest CD, "Händel goes wild", with the ensemble L'Arpeggiata and Nuria Rial, features a program that will also be performed in 2018 at concerts in e.g. Ludwigshafen and at the Musikfestspiele in Dresden.

Valer Sabadus came to international fame in 2012 for his outstanding interpretation of the role of Semira in Leonardo Vinci's opera 'Artaserse' at the opera houses in Nancy, Lausanne and Cologne, the Theater an der Wien, the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, the Opéra Royal de Versailles, and the Concertgebouw Amsterdam. The production also appeared on CD and DVD, and won countless prizes. In the same year, German music critics awarded him a prize for his solo CD 'Hasse Reloaded' (OehmsClassics). In addition, he reaped considerable international acclaim as Menelao in Francesco Cavalli's rediscovered opera 'Elena' at the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence; the production also appeared on DVD. In 2013, he made his brilliant debut in the title role of Handel's 'Xerxes' at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein in a production by Stefan Herheim. In 2015 and 2016, he shone in the title role of 'Teseo' at the Handel Festival in Karlsruhe, for which he received rave reviews. He enjoyed an outstanding debut in terms of both role and venue when he appeared as Emperor Nero in Claudio Monteverdi's 'L'Incoronazione di Poppea' at the Theater an der Wien in September 2015.

Valer Sabadus began his vocal training at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Munich under Prof. Gabriele Fuchs at the age of 17, and graduated in 2013 with distinction as a member of the Bayerische Theaterakademie August Everding, specialising in Musical Theatre. The production of Johann Adolph Hasse's 'Didone abbandonata', which he recorded with Hofkapelle München and Michael Hofstetter, was to prove a major milestone in his career. He debuted as early as 2009 under Riccardo Muti at Salzburg Whitsun Festival in a production of 'Demofonte' (Niccolò Jommelli), which transferred to the Ravenna Festival and the Opéra National de Paris. He also enjoyed great success as Sesto in Günter Krämer's production of 'La Clemenza di Tito' at the Mozart summer festival in Schwetzingen, as Ruggiero in Antonio Vivaldi's 'Orlando furioso' and as Endimione in 'La Calisto' by Francesco Cavalli at the opera house in Frankfurt. His first appearance at the Handel Festival in Halle was in the title role of Rinaldo with the Lautten Compagnie in 2011. Other engagements have taken him to the opera house in Cologne in the title role of Leucippo (Johann Adolph Hasse), to the Staatsoper Berlin, the Semperoper Dresden and the Opéra Royal de Versailles.

In addition to his busy life as an opera singer, the young countertenor also adores the concert and oratorio repertoire. He has performed evening recitals of lieder and arias at events such as the Lucerne Festival, the Schubertiade in Hohenems, and the 'Winter in Schwetzingen' Festival. He has already given solo performances at the Philharmonie concert halls in Essen and Cologne, the Frauenkirche in Dresden, the Chapelle Royale de Versailles, the Laeishalle in Hamburg, at Grafenegg Festival and at Innsbruck Festival of Early Music. Valer Sabadus has frequently teamed up successfully with leading early music ensembles, including Concerto Köln, Basel Chamber Orchestra, the Hofkapelle München, the L'Arpeggiata ensemble and Il pomo d'oro.

The richly varied discography of Valer Sabadus ranges from early baroque works by Claudio Monteverdi and Francesco Cavalli to Italian sacred music and opera, and contemporary works by Enjott Schneider. He has been awarded several prestigious prizes for his recordings, including the ECHO Klassik 2012 and 2015, and in 2013 he was selected by the ICMA as its Young Artist of the Year in the Vocal category.