

MASTERCLASS WITH THOMAS QUASTHOFF

—

28 Aug 12pm

OLD COLLEGE QUAD

The performance lasts approx. 1hr with no interval.

Please ensure all mobile phones and electronic devices are turned off or put on silent.

MASTERCLASS WITH THOMAS QUASTHOFF

Lea Shaw Mezzo soprano *Scottish Opera Emerging Artist 2021–22*

Korngold Sterbelied Op 14 No 1

Marx Ein Fichtenbaum steht einsam

Brahms Feldeinsamkeit Op 86 No 2

Arthur Bruce Baritone *The Robertson Trust Scottish Opera Emerging Artist 2020–21*

Schoenberg Schenk mir deinen
goldenen Kamm Op 2 No 2

Alma Mahler Die stille Stadt

Robert Schumann Mit Myrten und Rosen
Op 24 No 9

Clara Schumann Ihr Bildnis Op 13 No 1

Toby Hession Piano *Scottish Opera Emerging Artist Repetiteur 2021–22*

Scottish Opera's Emerging Artists programme is supported by
Scottish Opera's Emerging Artist Benefactors.

PROGRAMME NOTES

In his own vocal studies, world-renowned bass-baritone Thomas Quasthoff forged a very individual path, partly through necessity. Refused entry to music academies — since audition requirements stipulated an ability to play the piano, which Quasthoff did not have — he instead studied privately for 17 years in Hanover with Charlotte Lehmann and Ernst Huber-Contwig. Quasthoff's win at the 1988 ARD International Music Competition in Munich launched his career and drew great acclaim and interest from legendary German baritone Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau. Quasthoff chose not to study with the great elder singer, however, feeling it was more important for him simply to sound like himself.

Encouraging students to develop their own voices, rather than imparting his own particular style and approach, is now a key factor in Quasthoff's own teaching, which he has pursued for 25 years. He was professor of singing at the Academy of Music in Detmold between 1996 and 2004, and since 2004 has maintained the same position at the prestigious Hanns Eisler Academy of Music in Berlin.

He launched his own international song competition, Das Lied, in 2009, and has given public masterclasses to young singers at events including the Verbier Festival, Aldeburgh Festival and Heidelberg Spring Music Festival. In today's masterclass, he demonstrates his teaching methods and his own musical insights, working with two outstanding young singers on a diverse collection of works from the Romantic Lieder repertoire.

David Kettle

THOMAS QUASTHOFF

For almost four decades, Thomas Quasthoff has set the standard on international stages, moving the hearts of countless listeners with his artistry. He ended his outstanding career as a classical singer in 2012. However, he has retained his close ties to singing and music as a teacher at the Hanns Eisler Music Academy in Berlin and in various masterclasses. In addition to his teaching commitments, he has also discovered several new talents, appearing as a jazz and soul singer, narrator and even actor.

One of the most remarkable singers in his field, Quasthoff was a frequent guest of such orchestras as the Berliner Philharmoniker, Vienna Philharmonic and many other fine ensembles. He has performed at all of the world's major music venues, working closely with conductors including Claudio Abbado, Daniel Barenboim, Christoph Eschenbach, James Levine, Bernard Haitink, Mariss Jansons, Zubin Mehta, Riccardo Muti, Seiji Ozawa, Sir Simon Rattle, Helmuth Rilling, Christian Thielemann and Franz Welser-Möst.

He gave his highly acclaimed opera debut in 2003 as the Minister in Beethoven's *Fidelio* with the Berliner Philharmoniker under Sir Simon Rattle at the Salzburg Easter Festival. His debut at the Vienna State Opera in the role of Amfortas in Wagner's *Parsifal* under Donald Runnicles followed in spring 2004. In January 2005, he returned to Vienna in the same role to perform under the baton of Sir Simon Rattle.

Quasthoff has been artist in residence at Vienna's Musikverein, Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw, New York's Carnegie Hall and the Lucerne Festival, as well as in Baden-Baden and Hamburg, and at London's Wigmore Hall and Barbican. He released his new soul/blues/jazz programme *Tell It Like It Is* in 2010, and his new jazz album *Nice'n'Easy* in 2018, bringing him to numerous concert venues throughout Europe.

He was a professor at the Hochschule für Musik in Detmold from 1996 to 2004, and has taught at the Hanns Eisler Music Academy in Berlin ever since, where he dedicates himself passionately to the upcoming generation of singers. This devotion inspired him to launch the Das Lied international song competition. He has given masterclasses at festivals including Salzburg, Heidelberger Frühling, the Schubertiade in Schwarzenberg, Verbier and Aldeburgh.

AUDIENCE SURVEY

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