



QUEEN SONJA SINGING COMPETITION

Jasmin White is the winner of Queen Sonja Singing Competition 2023!

Jasmin White emerged as the winner of this year's Queen Sonja Singing Competition. The American contralto takes home €50,000 and artwork by H.M. Queen Sonja.

H.M. Queen Sonja was present during the final concert at the Norwegian National Opera & Ballet and presented the prizes, while the Norwegian opera star Lise Davidsen served as the host. Earlier in the competition, Randi Stene, the jury leader and opera director at the Norwegian National Opera & Ballet, expressed that she found the level of this year's competition to be very high and incredibly even. She reiterated this sentiment on stage during the prize-giving ceremony. "It has been extremely close. So, we have been looking for a winner who has the complete package", Stene said.

Aksel Daveyan (baritone) from Armenia took second place, while Nils Wanderer (countertenor) from Germany secured the third place. They win €10,000 and €5,000 respectively.

The following finalists participated in the final concert:

- Aksel Daveyan (b. 1995) / Armenia / baritone
- Navasard Hakobyan (b. 1998) / Armenia / baritone
- Vladyslav Tlushch (b. 1992) / Ukraine / baritone
- Rebecka Wallroth (b. 1999) / Sweden / mezzo-soprano
- Nils Wanderer (b. 1993) / Germany / countertenor
- Jasmin White (b. 1993) / USA / contralto

The Lied Prize for this year's Queen Sonja Competition went to Felix Gygli from Switzerland!

The Lied Prize is awarded based on the performances of lieder material during the preliminary rounds and semifinal. The prize holds a value of €1500.

The recipient of this year's Ingrid Bjoner Scholarship is Victoria Randem from Oslo, Norway.

The Ingrid Bjoner Scholarship holds a value of €8,600. It is named in honor of the legendary Norwegian soprano Ingrid Bjoner (1927-2006) and is presented to the top Norwegian participant in the Queen Sonja Singing Competition.

The jury:

- Randi Stene, Norway – head of the jury, Director of Opera, The Norwegian National Opera & Ballet, Oslo
- Samuel Gelber, USA – Director of Artistic Planning, Washington National Opera, Washington D.C.
- Michael Heaston, USA – Assistant General Manager, Artistic, The Metropolitan Opera, New York
- Stefan Herheim, Norway – Opera Director, Theater an der Wien
- Sophie de Lint, Switzerland/Netherlands – Director of Dutch National Opera, Amsterdam
- Pål Christian Moe, Norway – Artistic Administrator and Casting Adviser
- Annette Weber, Germany – Opera Director, Opernhaus Zürich





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More about QSSC:

The Queen Sonja Singing Competition (QSSC) is one of the world's leading competitions that transforms the careers of all participants. Held every two years in Oslo, the Competition draws on its global network of opera companies, conservatoires and professionals to bring together 40 of the best young singers from around the world. The singers compete not only for its main prizes but also to receive coaching, masterclasses, career development sessions and international exposure.

For over 30 years, the Queen Sonja Singing Competition has been an important advocate for the unique power of the human voice, celebrating and inspiring participating singers and connecting them with audiences around the world.

Among the prize-winners of previous years are internationally renowned names such as Lise Davidsen, Daniel Behle, Nadine Sierra, Jacquelyn Wagner, Kristina Mkhitarian, Elsa Dreisig, Sergey Kaydalov, Stefan Astakhov, Liv Redpath, Maria Motolygina and Inna Demenkova.

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