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[Cal Performances Press Room](#)



Photos of Lise Davidsen and Malcolm Martineau are available for download from the Cal Performances [Press Room](#).

CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS
SOPRANO
LISE DAVIDSEN
IN HER BAY AREA DEBUT
IN RECITAL WITH PIANIST MALCOLM MARTINEAU
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 AT ZELLERBACH HALL

Berkeley, CA, October 23, 2024—Cal Performances at UC Berkeley welcomes Norwegian soprano **Lise Davidsen** in her Bay Area debut on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 7:30pm at Zellerbach Hall. A striking addition to Cal Performances' [2024–25 Recital Series](#) of internationally-celebrated performers, the leading opera star of her day offers Northern California audiences the opportunity to experience her artistry in an intimate recital format. For her Cal Performances debut,

Davidsen will be joined by one of the world's most renowned collaborators on piano, **Malcolm Martineau**, who appeared at Cal Performances most recently last season alongside soprano Erin Morley.

Davidsen's highly anticipated Bay Area debut falls between her appearances in two Metropolitan Opera productions this season, the first of which sees the soprano in the title role in Puccini's *Tosca*, which she will also perform at Staatsoper Berlin, Bayerische Staatsoper, and the Wiener Staatsoper. Later this season, she will perform with the Royal Opera & Ballet under the baton of Sir Antonio Pappano in Barrie Kosky's new production of Wagner's *Ring Cycle* as Sieglinde in *Die Walküre*, a role she will also perform in Bayreuth; and will make further appearances at the Vienna State Opera as Sieglinde and as the Marschallin in *Der Rosenkavalier*. Earlier this year, Davidsen performed the title role of Strauss' *Salome* at the Opéra national de Paris (May 2024) and the role of Leonora in the Met Opera's new production of Verdi's *La forza del destino* (February 2024).

Davidsen has been in great demand at international opera houses since taking first prize and audience prize at London's Operalia competition in 2015. She made her Met Opera debut in 2019 as Lisa in Tchaikovsky's *The Queen of Spades*—a performance that earned the soprano high praise for the maturity, power, and depth of her vocals. Since then, she has lent her talents to iconic roles on opera stages across the US and Europe, including at the Metropolitan Opera; Royal Ballet & Opera, London; Wiener Staatsoper; Deutsche Oper Berlin; Staatsoper Berlin; and the Bayreuth Festival.

A versatile artist, Davidsen has also established herself as a formidable presence in recitals and alongside some of the world's leading orchestras. Her unmatched resume includes a star performance at the Last Night of the Proms (September 2023); a sold-out Metropolitan Opera solo recital debut (September 2023); a performance in the Summer Night Concert in Vienna with the Vienna Philharmonic (June 2024); and her Carnegie Hall debut with Wagner's *Wesendonck Lieder* with the MET Orchestra and conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin (February 2024). Davidsen's frequent orchestral collaborators include the Orchestre de Paris, Vienna Philharmonic, Oslo Philharmonic, London Philharmonic Orchestra, Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, Berliner Philharmoniker, and Staatskapelle Berlin, among others.

A testament to her industry-leading talents, Davidsen's list of achievements also includes recognition from the 2022 *Opera News Awards*; 2021 Female Singer of the Year by the International Opera

Awards; the 2020 Anders Jahres Art and Culture Prize; and the 2018 *Gramophone* Young Artist of the Year Award.

Davidsen's partner for this debut performance, the Scottish pianist Malcolm Martineau, is an acclaimed recitalist in his own right, having performed alongside such vocal talents as Sir Thomas Allen, Dame Janet Baker, Florian Boesch, Angela Gheorghiu, Susan Graham, Thomas Hampson, Sir Simon Keenlyside, Angelika Kirchschrager, Dame Felicity Lott, and Anne Sofie von Otter. He last performed in Hertz Hall with soprano Erin Morley in February 2024 as part of Cal Performances' 2023–24 Recital Series. Martineau has built a career traveling to some of the world's principal venues, including the Berlin State Opera; Carnegie Hall; Metropolitan Opera; Bavarian State Opera; Paris Opera; Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; La Scala; Sydney Opera House; Suntory Hall; and Zurich Opera; among others. He has also been presented in his own series at Wigmore Hall and at the Edinburgh Festival. As a recording artist, Martineau's discography of over 100 records has received awards from *Gramophone*, *BBC Music Magazine*, and the Grammys. A professor and mentor to many, Martineau was made an Officer of the British Empire (OBE) in 2016 for his services to music and young singers.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Tuesday, February 4, 7:30pm

Zellerbach Hall
Bancroft Way at Dana Street,
UC Berkeley campus

Recital

[Lise Davidsen](#), *soprano*

Malcolm Martineau, *piano*

Program:

Fresh from her sold-out Metropolitan Opera House solo recital debut last fall, Norwegian soprano Lise Davidsen makes her Bay Area debut with a recital in Zellerbach Hall. Having won first prize and audience prize at the Operalia competition in 2015, Davidsen has come to be globally recognized for her impressive tone and warmth of expression. Since her Metropolitan Opera debut in 2019, the *Gramophone*-, *Opera News*-, and International Opera Award-winner has left her mark on opera stages including the Metropolitan Opera; Royal Ballet and Opera, Covent Garden; Wiener

Staatsoper; Deutsche Oper Berlin; Staatsoper Berlin; and the Bayreuth Festival. Here, Davidsen offers the opportunity to experience her artistry in the intimate recital format alongside one of the world's most renowned collaborators on piano, Malcolm Martineau.

Tickets: \$75–\$199, with service fees applying for online purchases (ticket prices subject to change). **UC Berkeley students** can access exclusive discounts, including half-price tickets in all sections of the theater, and are also eligible to purchase a limited number of \$10 tickets for the best seats in the house beginning approximately two weeks before the performance through Cal Performances' [Golden Bear Circle program](#). (See website for details.)

Tickets for all performances are available at calperformances.org, by phone at (510) 642-9988, or in person at the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, Tuesday–Friday, 12–5:30pm and Saturday–Sunday, 1–5pm. More information about UC Berkeley student tickets and discounts is available at calperformances.org/ucb-students. For information about other discounts, visit calperformances.org/discounts.

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