

Margareth Beunders, contralto - Curriculum vitae - English

The contralto Margareth Beunders studied solo-singing with Annette de la Bije, Nelly van der Spek and Henk Smit. She specialized in historic performance with the legendary English Altus Sir Alfred Deller and also with the conductor Philippe Herreweghe (Collegium Vocale Gent). Supplementary studies ensued with Aafje Heynis.

Following her participation in a Varamatinee (Purcell's Dido and Aeneas) Margareth Beunders' career took off rapidly. Equally successful were the performances of St. Matthew's Passion with the "Brabants Orkest" under the baton of Hein Jordans, and in particular after the TV program "Young People on the Concert Podium".

Margareth Beunders sang in the U.S.A. in performances of Ravel's "L'Enfant et les Sortilèges" both in New York and in Pittsburgh. She performed in Israel with the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra. Her concert Tour of France took in the towns Caen, Tarbes and the Abbaye de Saint Sylvanès (Aveyron), and in Italy she sang in Bach's High Mass in Bologna, Modena and Venice. The "Goldener Saal" of the "Musikverein" in Vienna was the concert venue for a performance of Bach's "Magnificat" and Tippett's "A Child of our Time", together with the Vienna Madrigal Choir. In June 2003 she sang the Dutch Original Performance in Breda of "Feel the Spirit" with the composer John Rutter as conductor.

Thanks to her authentic contralto voice, Margareth Beunders has built up a considerable oratorio repertoire in the last number of years. She can be frequently be heard with choir performances and with Oratorio choirs in Holland, Belgium, Italy and Germany with such renown orchestras as "Florilegium Musicum", "Camerata Amsterdam", "Concerto '91", "Concerto Amsterdam" and the "RBO Sinfonia". Moreover, she is a much sought after contralto soloist in the symphonic repertoire and has frequent invitations to sing - among others - with the "Brabants Orkest", the "Orkest van het Oosten", the "Radio Filharmonisch Orkest", and the Concertgebouw Kamerorkest". Margareth Beunders sang Mahler's "Lied von der Erde" (in the arrangement for Chamber Orchestra by Schönberg/Riehn) during a 10-part guest tour with the "Fodor Kwintet" and the "Nieuw Nederlands Strijkkwartet" with Marien van Stalen as conductor.

She has given concerts in the last number of years with many well-known conductors such as Daan Admiraal, Dimitri Demetriades, Jean Fournet, Sergiu Commissiona, Heinz Friessen, Richard Hickox, Hans van den Hombergh, Anton Kersjes, Jean-Claude Malgoir, Lev Markiz, Kenneth Montgomery, Woldemar Nelson, Arnold Østman, Libor Pesek, André Previn, David Porcelijn, John Rutter, Jean-Paul Salanne, Ed Spanjaard, Andreas Stoehr, Jac van Steen, André Vandernoot, Jos Vermunt, Hans Vonk, Edo de Waart, Barry Wordsworth and Charles de Wolff.

Margareth Beunders has an extraordinary Recital (Lieder) repertoire where all great composers are represented. Several times she gave a Liederabend/recital in the "Kleine Zaal" of the "Concertgebouw" in Amsterdam and throughout the years was very often to be heard on various radio programs. In April 2007 she gave a highly-successful recital of romantic songs for the General Staff of the Dutch and German Department of Defense in "Kasteel De Wittenberg" near Wassenaar (The Hague).

Some live recordings as well as various radio transmissions have in the meantime appeared on CD. They are convincing proof of the extraordinary quality of Margareth's voice.

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