

Christoph Prégardien, tenor

"His lyric tenor voice had a youthful glow, yet he sang with plaintive beauty and piercing insight." The New York Times

Precise vocal control, clear diction, intelligent musicality and an ability to get to the heart of everything he sings all ensure Christoph Prégardien's place among the world's foremost lyric tenors. Especially revered as a Lieder singer, he kicks off the 2019/2020 season with concerts at the Schubertiade Hohenems and the Oxford Lieder Festival. He then performs in the US on tour with pianist Julius Drake, before the pair give joint recitals at London's Wigmore Hall and in Madrid. In the spring he will tour with Le Concert Lorrain, followed by recitals in Hong Kong with Roger Vignoles and in Zurich with Hartmut Höll and Udo Samel, among others, with additional appearances at the Ludwigsburger Schossfestspiele and at the Konserthuset in Stockholm.



Christoph Prégardien regularly appears with renowned orchestras the world over. He has worked with the Berlin and Vienna Philharmonics, the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Philharmonia Orchestra, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, as well as the Boston and San Francisco Symphonies, along with conductors such as Barenboim, Metzmacher and Thielemann. His wide orchestral repertoire includes the great baroque, classical and Romantic oratorios and passions, as well as works from the 17th and 20th centuries. In opera, his roles have included, among others, Tamino, Almaviva, Fenton (*Falstaff*), Don Ottavio, Titus, Ulisse and Idomeneo.

His extensive experience singing the Evangelist roles, together with his close working relationship with conductors such as Nagano, Chailly, Herreweghe, Harnoncourt, Luisi and Gardiner have provided him with the perfect basis for his increasing work conducting the works of Bach. Following the success of his conducting debut in 2012, leading Le Concert Lorrain and the Nederlands Kammerkoor in Bach's St. John's Passion, he has also become in-demand as a conductor of this repertoire. In 2015 he led Le Concert Lorrain and the Balthasar-Neumann Choir, this time in the St. Matthew's Passion, and in the following years returned to lead Le Concert Lorrain and the Dresdner Kammerchor on tour with Bach's Christmas Oratorio. In 2019 he made his debut leading a symphony orchestra, conducting the Duisburg Philharmonic in works including Mozart's *Requiem*, and also led the Collegium Vocale Gent at a celebration concert for Philippe Herreweghe's 70th birthday; together with the ensemble he will take part in a major European tour of Bach's Christmas Oratorio in December.

The singer has recorded much of his repertoire on a discography of over 150 records, which have received awards such as the Orphée d'Or of the Académie du Disque Lyrique, the Edison Award, the Cannes Classical Award and the Diapason d'Or. For the label Challenge Classics he has recorded Schubert's *Schwanengesang* with Andreas Staier and *Die schöne Müllerin* with Michael Gees – selected as Editor's Choice by Gramophone magazine and awarded the MIDEM Record of the Year – followed by Hugo Wolf's *Italienisches Liederbuch* with Julia Kleiter, *Between Life and Death*, *Wanderer* and the Grammy-nominated *Winterreise* disc – all with Michael Gees – as well as *Father and Son* with his son Julian Prégardien. His Schubert CD *Poetisches Tagebuch* (with Julius Drake) was awarded the German Critics' Award 2016. His most recent CD releases include *A Matter of Heart* – songs for voice, horn and piano with Olivier Darbellay and Michael Gees – as well as a recording of passion cantatas by Telemann and Bach with the Vox Orchester for Sony (where he appears as a baritone for the first time), along with *Auf den Flügeln des Gesanges* with Cyprien Katsaris for Challenge, featuring Romantic songs and their piano transcriptions. In autumn 2019, also for Challenge, a new recording of Schumann's *Dichterliebe* and Wagner's *Wesendonck Liedern* (with Michael Gees) will be released.

Teaching remains an important part of Christoph Prégardien's musical life. Following many years at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Zurich, he gives masterclasses for young singers the world over and since 2004 has been a professor at the Academy of Music in Cologne.

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