

Valer Sabadus
Countertenor

International
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Tours

"Valer Sabadus has an emotional intelligence in his singing that is rarely heard otherwise."

Süddeutsche Zeitung

"The countertenor Valer Sabadus has meanwhile refined his vocal art to such an extent, his voice has gained so much naturalness that even the smallest emotions of the Baroque opera characters can be heard in long melodic arcs, trumpeting but controlled outbursts or in highly finely dosed vibrato."

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

As *"tremendously dramatic, crystal clear, extremely controlled, lyrically fine."* the Süddeutsche Zeitung describes the sound of Valer Sabadus – with his crystal-clear and androgynous voice he sings in the ranks of the world's best countertenors. In 2020, Valer Sabadus was awarded the Handel Prize of the City of Halle and in 2022 the Bavarian Culture Prize.

Valer Sabadus gained international fame in 2012 for his outstanding interpretation as *Semira* in Leonardo Vinci's opera "Artaserse" (director: Silviu Purcarete, conductor: Diego Fasolis) at the opera houses of Nancy, Lausanne and Cologne, the Theater an der Wien, the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, the Opéra Royal de Versailles and the Concertgebouw Amsterdam.

Since then, his international career has flourished in many ways in the fields of concert, Lied and opera.

His long-standing partners are well-known early music ensembles such as La Cetra Barockorchester Basel, Concerto Köln, Freiburger Barockorchester, L'Arpeggiata, Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin, Kammerorchester Basel, Venice Baroque Orchestra, Cappella

Weigold & Böhm

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Mediterranea, the Accademia Bizantina, Il Pomo d'Oro, Les Talens Lyriques, Ensemble 1700 and Nuovo Aspetto and conductors such as Leonardo García Alarcón, Ivor Bolton, Ottavio Dantone, Michael Hofstetter, Andrea Marcon, Alessandro de Marchi, Riccardo Minasi or Christophe Rousset. His partners include Dorothee Oberlinger, Christina Pluhar, Nuria Rial, Albrecht Mayer, Midori Seiler, Philippe Jaroussky and Julia Lezhneva.

His has a great musical curiosity, which is reflected in his cross-genre, interdisciplinary and intercultural projects – the trademark of Valer Sabadus. These programs include, for example, "Love Songs" with the Syrian singer Dima Orsho and Musica Alta Ripa, a combination of music by Henry Purcell and composers from the Orient or the program "Closer to Paradise" with the classic band SPARK with longing sounds from Handel to the German rock band Rammstein.

These projects can be found in his discography, such as "Café – Orient meets Occident" (2012) and "Trialog - Music for the One God" with the Turkish Pera Ensemble (2013), "Alla Napoletana" with the Ensemble L'Arpeggiata (2021) or "Closer to Paradise" with the classical band SPARK (2022). They thus occupy an important place alongside opera, concert and solo literature in his extensive and varied discography. The now more than 25 productions testify to the wide range of his artistic work and range from early Baroque works by Claudio Monteverdi and Francesco Cavalli to Italian sacred and operatic music of the 18th century, Sergei Rachmaninov's "Vocalise" and expressionist and contemporary works, such as Enjott Schneider's requiem "In the Name of the Rose" (2012).

In the field of opera recordings, for example, "Vinci: Artaserse" with Concerto Köln, Diego Fasolis, Philippe Jaroussky, Max-Emanuel Cencic, Franco Fagioli, Yuriy Myenko (2012), "Hasse: Didone abbandonata" (2013) or "Vinvi: Catone in Utica" (2015) should be mentioned.

With "Hasse Reloaded" (2011), "Pergolesi: Stabat Mater" (2012), "To touch, to kiss, to die" and others, with works by Henry Purcell, John Dowland (2013), "Le belle immagini" with the

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Hofkapelle Munich (2014), "Caldara" with Nouvo Aspetto (2015), "Sacred Duets" with Nuria Rial and the Basel Chamber Orchestra (2017), "Handel goes wild" with L'Arpeggiata (2017), "Caro Gemello" – Farinelli and Metastasio with Concerto Köln (2018) and the CD "Arias–Bach/Telemann" with the Basel Chamber Orchestra (2021), recently released by Sony Classical, Valer Sabadus sets impressive testimonies to his solo development.

Valer Sabadus has received numerous awards such as the German Record Critics' Award, ECHO Klassik and the International Classic Music Award (ICMA) as Young Artist of the Year - Vocal 2013.

In the field of opera, the production of Johann Adolph Hasse's "Didone abbandonata" was groundbreaking. Already in 2009 he made his debut as a 23-year-old under Riccardo Muti at the Salzburg Whitsun Festival in the production "Demofonte" (Niccolò Jommelli) and was also heard at the Ravenna Festival and at the Opéra National de Paris. He also enjoyed great success as *Sesto* in Günter Krämer's production of "La Clemenza di Tito" at the Mozart Summer in Schwetzingen, as *Ruggiero* in Antonio Vivaldi's "Orlando furioso" and Endimione in "La Calisto" by Francesco Cavalli at the Frankfurt Opera. At the Handel Festival Halle he made his debut in 2011 in the title role of "Rinaldo" with the Berlin Lautten Compagny. Further engagements led him to the Cologne Opera in the title role "Leucippo" (Johann Adolph Hasse), to the Staatsoper Berlin, the Semperoper Dresden and several times to the Opéra Royal de Versailles.

He celebrated great international success as *Menelao* in Francesco Cavalli's rediscovered opera "Elena" at the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence under the musical direction of the Argentine Baroque specialist Leonardo Garcia Alarcón. The production was released on DVD in 2014. In 2013 he made his brilliant debut in the title role of Handel's "Xerxes" at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein in the cult production by Stefan Herheim under the musical direction of Konrad Junghänel.

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In 2015 and 2016 he also shone at the Handel Festival Karlsruhe in the title role "*Teseo*". He made an outstanding role and theatre debut as *Emperor Nerone* in Claudio Monteverdi's "L'incoronazione di Poppea" in 2015 under the direction of Claus Guth and conducted by Jean-Christophe Spinosi at the Theater an der Wien.

In 2016 and 2017 Valer Sabadus devoted himself to compositions by Monteverdi's pupil Francesco Cavalli and made his debut in his early Baroque operas "Eliogabalo" as *Giuliano* and in the title role of "*Giasone*" at the Opéra National de Paris, the Grand Théâtre de Genève and the Dutch National Opera in Amsterdam. In 2017 he also succeeded as *Ruggiero* in Handel's "Alcina" at the Stadttheater Basel under the baton of Andrea Marcon in a production by Lydia Steier. In 2018 he made repeated guest appearances at the Opéra National de Paris as *Angel* in Claus Guth's production of Handel's oratorio "Jephtha" under the musical direction of William Christie. In 2020 he again portrayed *Ruggiero* in Handel's "Alcina" at the Staatstheater Hannover.

In the 2021/22 season, Valer Sabadus appeared as *Nerone* in a scenic new production of Monteverdi's "L'incoronazione di Poppea" directed and conducted by Iván Fischer at the Festival Vicenza, the Grand Théâtre de Genève and the Müpa-Budapest. He also portrayed *Orpheus* von Gluck in Pina Bausch's legendary production at the Tanztheater Wuppertal, as well as the International Gluckfestspiele under the baton of Michael Hofstetter. In the summer of 2022 he appeared as *Metello* in the opera "Silla" by C. H. Graun at the Innsbruck Festival of Early Music under the musical direction of Alessandro De Marchi. This production can be heard in April 2023 at the Easter Festival at Schloss Rheinsberg. In summer 2023 he can be heard in Znojmo in A. Caldara's opera "La concordia de' pianeti" (C: Roman Válek, The Czech Ensemble Baroque).

In autumn 2023 he will be "Artist in Residence" at the Thüringer Philharmonie with Gluck's "Orpheus".

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This season Valer Sabadus makes his debut at the Göttingen Handel Festival with "Closer to Paradise" and SPARK, the Thüringer Bachwochen with L'Arpeggiata, and at the Bayreuth Baroque Festival with a solo recital.

Valer Sabadus regularly gives Lied and aria recitals at renowned festivals, including the Handel Festival in Karlsruhe and Halle, the Ludwigsburger Schlossfestspiele, the Rheingau Musik Festival, the Musikfest Bremen, the Dresden Music Festival, the Kissinger Sommer, the Lucerne Festival, the Festival de Musique Baroque d'Ambronay, the Froville Festival, the Utrecht Early Music Festival, the Schubertiade Hohenems and Schwarzenberg, the Styriarte Graz, as well as the Festival for Early Music in Innsbruck and the Grafenegg Festival. As a soloist he has already performed in the Philharmonie Berlin, Essen and Cologne, the Konzerthäuser Dortmund, Berlin and Vienna, the Prinzregententheater Munich, the Frauenkirche Dresden, the Laeiszhalle Hamburg, the Liederhalle Stuttgart, the Chapelle Royale de Versailles, the Cité de la Musique Paris, the Palais des Beaux-Arts Bruxelles, the KKL Luzern, the l'Auditori in Barcelona, as well as the Philharmonies in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

Valer Sabadus began his vocal training at the age of 17 at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Munich with Prof. Gabriele Fuchs and completed his studies as a member of the Bavarian Theatre Academy August Everding in 2013 in the master class music theatre with distinction.

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