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JOHANNES KALPERS



CURRICULUM VITAE – EXCERPTS

1974 - 1985

At eight years of age piano, flute and harmonica lessons. Starting at age ten musical education at the “Limburger Domsingknaben”. Later on he plays in Jazz and Dixie bands.

1984 - 1992

Johannes Kalpers conducts several choirs in his Westerwald homeland.

1985

Graduation from highschool (Abitur)

1985 - 1986

Compulsory military service (as trombonist) in the “Heeresmusikkorps 300” in Koblenz.

STUDIES

1986 - 1987

Enrollment at the University of Music in Karlsruhe. (Course of studies: grammar school teaching and singing)

1992

First State Exam (Diploma for high school teacher) Vocal Music Diploma from Prof. Klaus-Dieter Kern Award at the singing competition of the Leipzig Opera and the BDI (Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie Köln) Scholarship holder of the “Richard Wagner Stiftung”

1990 -1993

Opera school, Prof. Renate Ackermann, principal

MASTER CLASSES

1993 -2003

With Nicholai Gedda, Werner Hollweg, Prof. Pavel Lisitsian, Prof. Ernst Haefliger, Prof. Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, Hermann Prey (Schubert song-interpretations) and Prof. Leonard Hokanson (class in Schubert song-interpretation)

ENGAGEMENTS, CONCERTS, AWARDS

1993

First opera engagement (Landestheater Eisenach) 1993 - 1995. First appearance on TV “Musik liegt in der Luft” (ZDF)

1994

Vocal music diploma from the University of music in Karlsruhe. “Franz Völker-Preis” from the city of Neu-Isenburg. “Richard-Strauss-Plakette”, competition under the chairmanship of Prof. Wolfgang Sawallisch. Permanent engagement at the Landestheater Eisenach (season 1994/1995)

1995

Member of the cast at the Oper Chemnitz (starting season 1995/1996) Guest engagement at the Landestheater Eisenach (season 1995/1996)

1996 -1997

Guest engagements at the following opera houses: Oper Erfurth, Nationaltheater Mannheim, Staatsoperette Dresden, Deutsche Oper am Rhein (Düsseldorf/Duisburg), Staatstheater Wiesbaden.

1998

Member of the cast at the Niedersächsische Staatsoper Hannover (1998 - 2000) Guest engagement at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein (Düsseldorf/Duisburg)

1999

Salzburger Festspiele

2000

Engagement at the Vienna Volksoper (till 2002)

2001

Contract with BMG Ariola, Munich.

2002

BMG Ariola is releasing his first solo album “Musik ist meine Welt”. First cooperation with Maestro Nikolaus Harnoncourt in Vienna and Lisbon. He is awarded the “Stier der Hohen Salzburg” in silver. Appearance at the “José Carreras-Gala” on ARD. Theme music for the show: “Wer Hoffnung hat, ist

stark”. Winner of the song contest for the theme music of the “ARD-Fernsehlotterie” in all three categories: singer, composer and texter with his song: “Das Lied zum Glück”.

2003

Concerts in: Alte Oper Frankfurt/Main, Friedrichstadtpalast Berlin, Konzerthaus Berlin (in which he presents Bach-Oratorios, his solo programmes “Musik ist meine Welt” and “Die Stimme des Herzens” and his Christmas programmes “Weihnacht bei uns daheim” and “Oh Weihnacht Du friedvolle Zeit”). BMG Ariola presents his second solo album “Die Stimme des Herzens” on which he interprets a selection of his favourite songs (world famous love songs) with new German lyrics by Michael Kunze.

2004

His first CD with songs by Franz Schubert (Goethe settings) which he recorded together with Prof. Burkard Kehring is released. Concerts, performances of Oratorios, song recitals and several gala concerts with his solo programmes “Musik ist meine Welt” and “Die Stimme des Herzens”. Premiere of his new Christmas programme “Festtagszauber - die schönsten Lieder und Gedichte zur Advents- und Weihnachtszeit”. Broadcast of a major Johannes Kalpers TV special: “Die Stimme des Herzens”.

2005

SONYBMG Ariola releases the new CD “Lieder für die Seele”. Concerts under Nikolaus Harnoncourt, tour with Mozart requiem and Cantata misericordium by B. Britten under Prof. Toll, concerts with solo programmes “Lieder für die Seele” and “Musik ist meine Welt”. Christmas concerts with his solo programme “Festtagszauber” and also with the “Limburger Domsingknaben”. Guest contract with the Oper Leipzig where he sings “Rene”, the leading character in Franz Lehar’s operetta “Der Graf von Luxemburg”. Appearance on the José Carreras Gala (ARD) in Leipzig. Star guest at Frank Elstner’s: “Verstehen Sie Spass”.

2006

Song recitals: Franz Schubert “Winterreise”. Evangelist in J.S. Bach’s “Matthäus-Passion”, among others in Flensburg, Odense (Denmark) and at the Münchner Philharmonie. Several concerts with his solo programmes “Lieder für die Seele” and “Musik ist meine Welt”. Tour with his Christmas

programme “Festtagszauber- die schönsten Lieder und Gedichte zur Adventszeit”. Also a guest contract with Oper Leipzig where Johannes Kalpers sings “Rene”, the leading character in Franz Lehar’s operetta “Der Graf von Luxemburg”.

2007

Song recitals with songs and cycles by Franz Schubert, among others: “Die Winterreise” und der “Der Schwanengesang”. First performance of “Die Zypressen - Cyprese” in its first version by Antonin Dvorak in Czech at the Music Festival in Frankfurt/Oder, in Ludwigshafen and at the Music Festival in Ljubljana (Slovenia). CD recording of that cycle. Evangelist in J.S. Bach’s “Johannes-Passion” in Potsdam. Sony BMG Ariola releases his 4th CD “Heimat, Deine Lieder”. Concert tour with the songs of his new album and his Christmas programme “Festtagszauber- die schönsten Lieder und Gedichte zur Advents- und Weihnachtszeit”. Johannes Kalpers becomes host of the SWR TV-show “SonntagsTour”.

2008

Release of his CD “Ich wünsch Dir - Das Beste von Johannes Kalpers”. Johannes Kalpers is on tour with Florian Silbereisen and his show “Frühlingsfest der Volksmusik” in more than 50 cities. Furthermore several concerts and song recitals with his solo programmes “Musik ist meine Welt”, “Heimat, Deine Lieder” and his Christmas programme “Festtagszauber - die schönsten Lieder und Gedichte zur Advents- und Weihnachtszeit”. In Fall, he is on tour with 7 other tenors and presents the “Gala-Nacht der deutschen Startenöre” in more than 20 German cities. His media presence is growing even more. He has numerous TV appearances all over the country. His new TV show, the SWR “SonntagsTour”, is broadcasted twelve times a year - at prime time!!!

2009

Johannes Kalpers records his new CD “Sonnenschein und Regenbogen” in cooperation with the famous producer Ralph Siegel. It is released in April by Sony Music Entertainment/ Ariola. He is on tour with this new solo programme. In December, he is star guest of the tour: “Weihnachten mit Gaby Albrecht”. In addition, there are several concerts with his Christmas programme “Festtagszauber - die schönsten Lieder und Gedichte zur Advents- und Weihnachtszeit”. Also, Johannes Kalpers presents 12 new episodes of his SWR TV-show “Sonntagstour”.



2010

The long term cooperation with "SWR Fernsehen" continues. Again, Johannes Kalpers presents 12 new episodes of his TV show "Sonntagstour". Several concerts with his solo programme "Sonnenschein und Regenbogen", as well as his Christmas programme "Festtagszauber" are scheduled.

CONCERTS, SONG RECITALS, PERFORMANCES OF ORATORIOS

1993 - 2009

In major concert halls: Among others: Alte Oper Frankfurt, Berliner Philharmonie, Konzerthaus Berlin, Herkulessaal München, Philharmonie München and Großer Wiener Musikvereinsaal. Doing this, Johannes Kalpers works with world famous conductors like Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Christoph von Dohnany, Achim Zimmermann, Georg Pretre, Prof. Hans-Martin Schneidt, Prof. Uwe Gronostay, Prof. Wolfgang Schäfer, Ennoch zu Guttenberg, Prof. Alois Ickstadt, Prof. Winfried Toll, Prof. Mathias Janz, Hans-Jörg Albrecht and many more.

TV

1993 - 2010

Johannes Kalpers appears in more than 500 TV broadcasts. Among them: José Carreras Gala, Verstehen Sie Spaß, Große Stimmen-Große Lieder, Arena der Stars, Winterfest der Volksmusik, Kein schöner Land, Straße der Lieder, Musik liegt in der Luft, Wunschbox, Immer wieder sonntags, Sommernacht der großen Melodien, Festliche Klänge, Weihnachten in den Bergen, Musik aus dem Weihnachtsland, Weihnachten mit dem Bundespräsidenten, So schön ist unser Deutschland, Die Krone der Volksmusik, André Rieu - Zauber der Musik, Fröhlicher Alltag, Fröhlicher Weinberg, Musikantendampfer, Ein Platz an der Sonne, Willkommen bei Carmen Nebel, Carmen-Nebel-Show, Sommerfest der Volksmusik, Musik aus dem Weihnachtsland, Frühlingsfest der Volksmusik, Andrea-Kiewel-Show, Herbstfest der Volksmusik, Menschen der Woche. Since 2007 his own show: "SonntagsTour" on SWR-Fernsehen.



PORTRAIT - HORST LIETZBERG

It happened in a kindergarten in Westerwald, Germany. The boys and girls were singing. One of them set himself apart - with a voice as clear as a bell: little Johannes Kalpers. Fate takes its course, especially, since his parents encourage his natural gift. At eight years of age he plays the piano, flute and harmonica. At age ten he's a member of the famous choir „Limburger Domsingknaben“ and remains a member for 9 years. In 1976, he's allowed to sing with the big choir. „An impressive experience“, he says.

Music becomes his life but, nevertheless, he graduates from highschool with outstanding grades. Afterwards, he serves his mandatory time in the German Federal Armed Forces. Since he plays the trombone he serves in the Heeresmusikkorps 300, in Koblenz. Goodbye to Classical music, Jazz and Dixie.

Right after military duty, he enrolls at the University of Music in Karlsruhe. Since he wants to support himself he becomes choir-master for three different choirs and teaches piano lessons.

He succeeds. Diligence, perseverance, discipline, a strong will and good luck are his constant companions. Johannes Kalpers is no stranger to hard work. That is why he takes on three different majors. With impressive results: 1992 degree in Music, 1993 diploma as vocal teacher, 1992 vocal music diploma from Prof. Klaus Dieter Kern.

He graduates with honours in all of them. In addition, he attends Masterclasses by Nicolai Gedda, Hermann Prey, Ernst Haefliger, Werner Hollweg, Bernhard Adler and Elisabeth Schwarzkopf.

A great career is in the making. In rapid succession, Johannes Kalpers wins prizes in vocal competitions, among them the „Richard-Strauss-Plakette“ and the „Franz Voelker Preis“. He receives a scholarship from the "Richard Wagner Stiftung". This is followed by engagements at the opera-houses in Eisenach, Chemnitz and Hannover.

In 2000 - 2002 he's a member of the cast at „People Opera Vienna“, guest at „Salzburger Festspiele“, has engagements at famous theatres in Leipzig, Mannheim, Wiesbaden, Erfurt, Dresden, Kassel and at the German Opera on the Rhine.

Already, he is famous for singing Bach-Oratorios and Schubert-Cycles.

He becomes Assistant Professor for vocal music at the Frankfurt University of Music.

Johannes Kalpers is exceptionally versatile - one of his major character traits. From classical performances at famous opera-houses, TV shows, radio-broadcasts to his own records. From Schubert to Pop. For him, not the category but the quality of his work counts.

Johannes Kalpers does not fit the profile of a traditional tenor. But he doesn't care. He is what he is: cheerful, easy-going, optimistic, with a young, charismatic aura. Moreover, he is modest and not in the least vain.

His purpose is to bring music to the general public. That's why he is happy about his great co-operation with his record-label Sony/BMG/Ariola in Munich.

He lives in the Westerwald and is involved in different charities. He is patron to the Stella Maris Hospice in Mechernich/Eifel and founder and sponsor of „Music for our World“, a charity that encourages children, youngsters and elderly people to sing and make music.

In short, he sings what he lives and that makes him unique.





REPERTOIRE



Johannes Kalpers' s repertoire encompasses classical works from opera, oratorio, operetta and art song to light music and pop music as well as songs and lyrics composed and written by himself. We are more than happy to send you a detailed list of his repertoire.

CONCERT WITH SONGS FROM THE LATEST CD "SONNENSCHIN UND REGENBOGEN"

A unique concert evening with songs of his latest album "Sonnenschein und Regenbogen" Which Johannes Kalpers produced in cooperation with famous producer Ralph Siegel. It was released by Sony Music Entertainment Ariola in April, 2009. A great voice, great music and great arrangements - with "Sonnenschein und Regenbogen" the two passionate musicians and their team, including the songwriter Dr. Bernd Meinunger, created a fantastic album that goes straight to the heart and touches the soul. Johannes Kalpers returns with a work of twelve crossover-songs, encompassing classic, pop and hits, two years after the release of his previous album "Heimat deine Lieder" and one year after his best-of "Ich wünsch dir". Many songs have been written especially for Johannes Kalpers. A few, selected ones are well-known and already have a history. Highly interesting, for example, is the new recording of the 24-year-old Grand-Prix-Hymn "Die Glocken von Rom", originally sung by Heike Schäfer and now, for the first time, interpreted by a tenor. Even five years before that, in spring of 1980, Peter Alexander, the famous charmer from Vienna, had a great hit with "Die Bäume auf unserem Schulhof", a moving narration of a class reunion. This song too, received a new breath of life by the team Kalpers/Siegel/Meinunger. In 2001, the German Tenors with "A Song For Our Friends" participated in the preliminaries at Eurovision Song Contest (formerly known as Grand Prix). Johannes Kalpers German version "Ein Lied für unser Land" is an exhilarating tarantella with great festival-character. A little later, in 2005, for Ralph Siegel's 60th birthday, a first recording of "I believe in you" was produced with the Wagner-soprano Kriemhild Jahn, who is now his wife. A German version "Ich glaub an dich" with a message every emotional human can easily relate to, is finally available and interpreted with fervour by Johannes Kalpers. And in 1971, world famous star Miguel Rios won "Grand Prix RTL" with the album's theme melody "Sonnenschein und Regenbogen". Nevertheless, this song seems to be tailor-made for Johannes Kalpers. But, a lot of new songs can also be discovered on this album. "Heut Nacht auf dem Opernball" contains a bit of irony and a little "wanderlust" is noticeable in the witty "Eviva Mallorca". There is also room for love: The melancholy, dreamy "Addio Ciao" unfolds as much magic as the directly following upbeat song "Solang die

Welt sich dreht". Poetic ballads like "Greif nach den Sternen", "Ein Traum fliegt um die Welt" and the album's final hymn "Das letzte Lied in dieser Nacht" round off this wonderful, touching, and, for the most part very moving album after about 45 minutes. An album, that will be a milestone to both masters of their craft. This is the kind of album that will not be created every day. It is special. Experience these melodies and additional classics from Operetta, Pop and Hits live with unique artist Johannes Kalpers.

JOHANNES KALPERS "DEIN IST MEIN GANZES HERZ" THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SONGS AND DUETS FROM THE MAGICAL WORLD OF OPERETTA

Johannes Kalpers sings the most beautiful songs and arias from the magical world of operetta. Johannes Kalpers about operetta: "The operetta is a musical genre that has been written off many times and still exists. Fortunately, it experiences a revival these days!" With everlasting tunes by Franz Lehar like "Dein ist mein ganzes Herz" or the romantic, melancholy "Wolgalied" from the "Zarewitsch", Johannes Kalpers shows his vocal quality and his outstanding interpretation abilities. He and his duet partner cast a spell over the audience with duets like "Lippen schweigen" or "Schenkt man sich Rosen in Tirol". Songs from Vienna by Robert Stolz, and the unforgotten composers Franz Grothe (Es ist alles nur geliebt), Eduard Künneke ("Ich bin nur ein armer Wandergesell") and Emmerich Kalman ("Tanzen möchte ich") round off this glamorous gala evening and add a very special atmosphere to it. Johannes Kalpers talks with his audience in his charming, mischievous manner and encourages them to sing and dance along. An outstanding concert evening with emotions and longing.

CHURCH CONCERT "ICH BETE AN DIE MACHT DER LIEBE" JOHANNES KALPERS UNPLUGGED (ACCOMPANIED BY PIANO AND VIOLIN)

With this programme, Johannes Kalpers, who started his career in a catholic choir, the "Limburger Domsingknaben", is returning to his roots. He sings the most beautiful songs and arias from the realm of religious music: From "Ave Maria" by Schubert and Bach, "Largo" by Händel, "Panis angelicus" by Cesar Franck, "Agnus Dei" by Georges Bizet to the famous "Ich bete an die Macht der Liebe" by Bortniansky after which this programme was named. For Johannes Kalpers faith and joie de vivre belong together. That is why he also presents his own songs and classic hits in this programme, talks to his audience between his recitals and, once again, proves his stylistical confidence, his impressively broad repertoire and his artistic versatility. The instrumental intermezzi of his congenial instrumental accompanists are another highlight of this unique concert programme in which Johannes Kalpers also sings together with his audience.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT "FESTTAGSZAUBER - DIE SCHÖNSTEN LIEDER UND GEDICHTE ZUR ADVENTS- UND WEIHNACHTSZEIT"

When the days are getting shorter, when it is freezing outside and temperatures are dropping, the desire for a little warmth and security grows, like every year. Christmas is approaching but all too often people tend to forget about the true meaning of the Christmas holiday and the "magic of Christmas". Johannes Kalpers - the "Voice of the Heart" ("Stimme des Herzens") satisfies that longing with his Christmas programme "Festtagszauber" in a unique way. With his songs, his incredible voice, his outstanding instrumental cast and the wonderful speaker, Michael Seeboth, Johannes Kalpers is putting his audience into the holiday spirit. The choir of the "Limburger Domsingknaben", where Johannes Kalpers once started his career, conducted by Domkantor Klaus Knubben, is another highlight of this sensitive concert evening. The mixture between new songs and lyrics that go straight to the heart, the poems and traditional pieces like the "Christmas story in songs" ("Weihnachtsgeschichte in Liedern") where Johannes Kalpers and his cast interpret the most beautiful and famous Christmas carols together with the essence of Christmas, make this evening an unforgettable experience for everybody, no matter what age.

Notice: This programme may also be booked without the choir /or with a different boys' choir (e.g. Mainzer Domchor)!

JOHANNES KALPERS GOES BIG BAND - BIG BAND CONCERT

For the first time, Johannes Kalpers ventures near this genre, which has been very important to him since his youth when he played the trombone in several big bands and a Dixieland group. For a tenor, this is a rather unusual concert programme that shows a new vocal side of Johannes Kalpers where he dares to leave classical bel canto and truly grooves into the songs and their particular styles. In "Johannes Kalpers goes Big Band" this exceptional artist presents world famous tunes like "Spanish Eyes", "Strangers in the night", "My way", "What a wonderful world", "Everybody loves somebody", "Beyond the sea", "Fly me to the moon" but also less famous songs! Very fascinating is the inclusion of songs that normally do not belong to the Jazz or Swing genre but reach a new, jazzy dimension because of their arrangements. Johannes Kalpers turns "Ich war noch niemals in New York" by Udo Jürgens, "Your song" by Elton John, the Italian hit "Volare" as well as "One moment in time", "Smoke gets in your eyes" and John Miles's song "Music was my first love" into Swing. An exciting concert evening, where Johannes Kalpers proves once again that music has no genre limits.

**NOTICE:
IT IS POSSIBLE TO COMBINE INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMMES!!!**

