



THE STAR OF THE OPERA JONAS KAUFMANN PROTAGONIST AT THE PALADOZZA

With him the mezzo-soprano Clémentine Margaine. On the podium Asher Fisch

A gala evening dedicated to the great Italian and international opera repertoire with one of the most requested and appreciated tenors in the world: this is what the Teatro Comunale di Bologna offers on Sunday 25 October at 8.30 pm at the PalaDozza. The protagonist is the great German tenor Jonas Kaufmann, expected for his debut with the Orchestra of Teatro Comunale conducted by the Israeli Asher Fisch. The artist, who has three new albums out with Sony Classical in the fall, will arrive at the PalaDozza in Piazza Azzarita after two concerts at the Teatro alla Scala this week; in addition, on Friday 23 October he held a masterclass with the young talents of the TCBO School of Opera.

«I am really very happy to return to Bologna even if in this terrible period of our lives - says Jonas Kaufmann -. I love the city and I very much appreciate the efforts made by the Municipal Theater to quickly prepare a new space suitable for offering music, art, beauty and therefore also psychological relief to citizens, because even in the worst wars the theaters have always remained open and have always played essential social function of distracting citizens from the miseries they lived daily, of raising the minds to a higher horizon to continue living. I have also always been a big fan of Bologna and its culinary culture, which I have appreciated for years, often coming privately to enjoy it in peace. And this time too I will take advantage of the concert to carve out some moments for myself in this beautiful city ».

Guest next to the tenor, replacing the expected Anita Rachvelishvili, the French mezzo-soprano Clémentine Margaine, for the first time in Bologna. The singer jumped to the headlines for her debut at the Metropolitan in New York in Georges Bizet's *Carmen* in 2017, directed on that occasion by Asher Fisch. *Carmen* is also the opera that saw her alongside Jonas Kaufmann at the Hamburg Staatsoper in 2019; and the famous duet "C'est toi! ... C'est moi! ...", taken from the opera-comique, will close the Bolognese concert.

The program features arias from the Italian verist repertoire such as "Cielo e Mar" from Amilcare Ponchielli's *Mona Lisa*, Umberto Giordano's "Improvviso" from *Andrea Chénier* and "Mamma, that wine is generous" from Pietro Mascagni's *Cavalleria rusticana*, interpreted by Kaufmann, and again "Acerba voluttà" by Francesco Cilea's *Adriana Lecouvreur* sung by Margaine. The tenor also proposes "Life is hell to the unhappy" from *The strength of destiny* by Giuseppe Verdi and "Rachel, quand du Seigneur" from *La Juive* by Jacques Halévy, while the mezzo-soprano "Mon cœur s'ouvre à ta voix" from *Samson et Dalila* by Camille Saint-Saëns. The two will then sing "The abhorred rival ... Already the priests gathered" from Verdi's *Aida*.

The Orchestra of the Teatro Comunale directed by Asher Fisch will also offer some famous symphonic pages such as the Overture from Verdi's *La Forza del Destino*, the Intermezzo from the third act of Puccini's *Manon Lescaut* and the Symphonic Intermezzo from Mascagni's *Cavalleria rusticana*, the Bacchanal from *Samson et Dalila* by Saint-Saëns and finally the Aragonise from *Carmen* by Bizet.

Presenting partners of the event are Alfasigma, Illumia and Marchesini Group.

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