



NINA
SOLO COMPETITION
- FOR YOUNG VOICES

Bergen, 17 - 18 June 2016





WELCOME TO THE 3. NINA SOLO COMPETITION- FOR YOUNG VOICES.

The vocal competition is open for all for young and talented singers between 15 and 24 years, and it is with great pleasure we this year welcome 20 young singers.

The contestants will sing pieces from the classical tradition, and after the first round the jury will choose contestants for the 2nd round before the three finalists are chosen.

The finale will be held in Grieghallen Saturday evening at 19.00, together with Grand Prix finale for choirs. The singers will be assessed by an international jury. Details will be announced on www.griegfestival.no

We are looking forward to exciting competitions and great performances!

Enjoy!

Annlaug Hus
Festival manager

Time schedule

FRIDAY 17TH JUNE

17.00 - 21.00 Competition: 1st round, 20 singers.
Venue: Troldsalen / Troidhaugen

SATURDAY 18TH JUNE

14.00 - 16.30 Competition: 2nd round
Venue: Troldsalen / Troidhaugen

19.00 Finale NINA Solo Competition and
Grand Prix Finale for choirs
Venue: Grieghallen

TICKETS AT THE ENTRANCE NOK 200

VIZMA ZVAIGZNE

C. M. von Weber
William Bolcom

Fatima's aria "Arabien, mein Heimatland" / Oberon
George / Cabaret Songs

SYNNE MARIE RUI VINJE

E. Grieg
G. F. Händel

Det Syng / Haugtussa
Da Tempeste (Cléopatra) Giulio Cesare

MARIE-ELISE HERREDSVELA

E. Elgar
K. Weill

Where corals lie / Sea Pictures, Op. 37
Je ne t'aime pas

AMALIE KONGSSUND

Albert Berg Lieder
E. Grieg

Nacht - Sieben frühe
Ein Traum / En Drøm - 6 sanger, Op. 48 no. 6

LYDIA HOEN TJORE

G. Rossini
R. Strauss

Bel raggio lusinghier / Semiramide
Das Rosenband (op. 36 nr. 1)

ANNA KONSTANSE MARIE GJÆRUM KORTNER

G. B. Pergolesi
Halfdan Kjerulf

Se tu m'ami
Søvnen

SUSANN KLUBBEN

W. A. Mozart
E. Grieg

Dans un bois solitaire
Elsk

CARL-CHRISTIAN KURE

Donizetti Bella siccome un angelo / Don Pasquale
F. Schubert Nachstück

EVA LANGELAND GJERDE

G. F. Händel Art thou troubled / Rodelinda
E. Grieg Våren / 12 sanger, op. 33

ANNIKA SYNNØVE BEINNES

G. Menotti Hello! Oh, Margaret, It's you / The Telephone
E. Grieg Solveigs sang

STEFFEN SIGGERVÅG SORTLAND

F. P. Tosti Non t'amo piú
G. F. Händel Where'er you walk

SILJE MØRCH

G. B. Pergolesi Se tu m'ami
A. Scarlatti Le violette

MATILDE RUUD

W. A. Mozart Dans un bois solitaire
G. B. Pergolesi Se tu m'ami

INGEBORG EKELAND

Bo Linde En barnsaga vid brasan / 10 naiva sanger
W. A. Mozart Parto, parto / La clemenza di Tito

Adjudicators



PROF. RITA HIRNER-LILL - GERMANY

Born in Austria from German parents the mezzosoprano Rita Hirner-Lill studied first piano until Masterclass at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Munich before turning to singing with baritone Karl Schmitt-Walter at the same university. Her stage debut was in 1967 at the Teatro National San Carlos in Lisboa/Portugal, followed by German debut in 1968. 1971-1974 she was a member of the Stuttgart State Opera with a wide range of repertory from baroque to contemporary music. Guest performances led her to important opera houses: La Scala/Milano, Opera Roma and Torino (Radio RAI), Munich State Opera, Vienna State Opera. Among others she also sang in festivals Mozart Requiem, Verdi Requiem, Rossini Rezitals and Bach oratorios.

After marriage and birth of a daughter she began teaching at the Munich University of Music and Performing Arts and at the Bayerische Theaterakademie August Everding. Since 1979 until now under her guide new generations of young opera- and concert singers are to be heard in many national and international opera houses and concert halls for example: La Scala, Met, Covent Garden, Bayreuth Festival, State Operas Munich and Vienna, Glyndebourne, Paris, Madrid, Budapest and Tokyo. During the last ten years 1.prize winners of the most prestigious competitions worldwide like “Operalia Placido Domingo”, “Belvedere”, Vienna, “Vinjas” Barcelona, “Neue Stimmen” are some of these former students, It is always a real pleasure for Rita Hirner-Lill to find new voices and work with them in workshops or masterclasses such as she did at the “Accademia di Montepulciano” in Italy the “Conservatorio Giuseppe Verdi” in Milano, and at the “Tschaikowsky Conservatory” in Kiew/Ucraina. Since 20 years Rita Hirner-Lill is member of the auditions for singers in the Jehudi Menuhin foundation LMN (Live Music Now) in Munich.



PROF. JULIETTE GALSTIAN - SWITZERLAND

Laureate of numerous International competitions, including Maria Callas Grand Prix (Greece), Julian Gayarre (Spain) and the winner of the Viotti Singing competition in Italy, Juliette Galstian performed during almost 20 years at the prestigious opera houses of the world: the Covent Garden, Opera Bastille, La Fenice, La Scala, Zurich opera, Geneva opera, Torino's Teatro Reggio, New National opera of Tokyo and others.

Being an established opera singer, she also sings mezzo-soprano parts at Requiems of Verdi, Mozart and Dvorak, Stabat Mater of Rossini and Pergolesi, collaborates with Symphonic and Chamber orchestras all over the world and loves performing recitals with a large selection of songs in nine languages. She was invited at the Salzburg, Colmar and Miscolz Festivals, and gave many concerts and recitals at New-York's BAM, London's Barbican, Bergen's Grieg halle, Brussels, Montreal, Vienna, Innsbruck, Paris, Geneva, Moscow, St.Petersburg, Antwerpen etc. She sang under the baton of James Conlon, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, William Christie, Michel Plasson, Adam Fisher, Evelino Pido, Vladimir Spivakov and others.

Her discography includes DVDs of Iphigénie en Tauride of Gluck (the title role) and Nina of Paisiello (role of Susanna) and the CD of Theodora of Handel (role of Irene) with les Arts Florissants and William Christie.

Juliette Galstian is a professor of singing at Geneva Conservatoire and is regularly invited to give masterclasses



PROF. MARIA GAMBORG HELBEKKMO - NORWAY

Maria Gamborg Helbekkmo is Professor Emeritus at Bergen University College, where she taught choir conducting, piano, and solo voice. Educated as a pianist, singer, and conductor, she has gained wide recognition as a musician and teacher, and is especially known for her work with the female choir Voci Nobili. Her determination, combined with her artistic abilities and her unique musical ambience, has helped turn Voci Nobili into a very highly-esteemed European choir with many honours to its name, including 11 International 1.prizes.

She did her piano studies with Eline Nygaard (Oslo), Béla Siki (Seattle) as Adele Marcus (Juilliard School of Music, New York). Her vocal studies were with Ellen Sundby (Bergen), Paul Lohmann (Wiesbaden) and Gunvor Mjelva (Oslo), and her conducting studies were with Knut Nystedt (Oslo) and Eric Ericsson (Stockholm).

Maria G. Helbekkmo made her debut as a concert pianist in 1972 in Oslo. She has held several concerts for Concerts Norway (Rikonsertene), Norwegian Broadcasting (NRK), and at Troidhaugen – Edvard Grieg's home. She has been a piano soloist with different Norwegian Orchestras; Trondheim Symphonie Orchestra, Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra. As a singer she has worked as a freelancer for the Norwegian Broadcasting for several years, creating music programmes for children, in radio and TV. Additionally she has held more than 500 concerts on tour in Norway and Sweden.

Pianist



VYARA SHUPERLIEVA

She has graduated from the National Musical Academy in Sofia, Bulgaria, with Master Degree. 1986 she accepted the position of vocal coach in the National Opera. Between 1991-1994 she has been an accompanist in the Academia Di Canto Boris Christov, in Rome. Vyara Shuperlieva is a permanent accompanist of the following competitions: Boris Christov Competition (Sofia), where she has received an award for the best accompanist, Paolo Negro (Italy), Neue Stimmen (Germany). She worked as a vocal coach in the opera's productions of Opera Thesaloniki, Festival Clasic Openair, Solothurn (Swiss), Festival Operosa (Bulgaria), Cyprus Opera Organization (Cyprus), Opera-Bergen (Norway). Recently Vyara Shuperlieva has been appointed for the position of a vocal coach in Mozarteum-Salzburg, Austria. Since 2015 she is an accompanist in Festspiele and Osterfestspiele Festival, Salzburg (Austria).

Participants



ALEKSANDER LØE MYRLING

Aleksander Løe Myrling (20) is a young baritone from Kongsberg, Norway. He started singing during upper secondary School, tutored by Anne-Carolyn Schlüter. After having completed upper secondary school, he attended one year at Toneheim Folkehøgskole. He is currently studying at the Norwegian Music Academy with Professor Barbro Marklund-Petersone and Matthew Mark Marriott.

Aleksander has performed in Kongsberg Church, «Sølvsalen in Kongsberg Kulturhus», «Stormen Kulturhus» in Bodø, «Hamar Kulturhus», and has been singing at «Musikk- og scenehuset» in Oslo on several occasions. He has attended master classes, and worked with professional performers like Elizabeth Norberg-Schulz, Raymond Hughes, Raymond Modesti and Bo Skovhus. In 2015 he received “Jonas B. Gundersens Musikkpris” during “Glogerfestspillene” and won the Matthew Mark Marriott voice scholarship awards. In January 2016 Aleksander sang at “Glogerfestspillene” in Kongsberg. After passing an audition he attended the music festival’s YAGA-program (Young Artist Gloger Academy).



AMALIE KONGSSUND

Amalie Kongssund (23) grew up in Oslo, Norway, where she already as a child was introduced to the classical song tradition. At the age of 10 she was accepted in the children’s choir at The Norwegian National Opera and Ballet. She took part in several productions both as a soloist and in the choir. Later she went to Foss upper secondary school where she studied with Aase Sørbø 2008-2011, and to “Toneheim Folkehøgskole” where she studied with Njål Thorud. At present she is in her last year of the bachelor study in classical singing at the Norwegian Music Academy tutored by Kirsten Taranger. Amalie has participated in several song competitions. She won

the audience award at «Klassisk Julekonsert» at Hamar in 2011 and was finalist in “National Youth Artists Championship (Ungdommens Musikkmeesterskap)” in 2014. In 2015 she participated in the international Lied-competition «Das Lied» in Berlin.



ANNA KONSTANSE MARIE GJÆRUM KORTNER

Anna Konstanse Marie Gjørum Kortner (17) comes from Skien, Norway, and is in her second year at Skien upper secondary school (music program) with focus on singing. At the age of three she started singing in a children’s choir, and has been singing ever since. She got her first singing lessons at “Skien kulturskole”, and later she has studied with Anders Vangen in Porsgrunn, and with Vegard Arnesen Bakke at Vangens Operastudio, also in Porsgrunn. In November 2013 she won “Anders Vangens og Sparebank Sørs Talentpris”. Since autumn 2015 she has had Solveig Kringlebotn as her voice teacher. Anna Konstanse has been a soloist on several occasions, also in large concerts. She intends to get a degree in classical singing, and hopes to be able to make a living out of performing music.



ANNIKA SYNNOVE BEINNES

Annika Synnøve Beinnes (16) comes from Høyanger, Norway, and is in her last year at primary school. In 2011 she started studying at “Førde Kulturskole” with Christine Marøy as her voice teacher. From 2013 to 2015 she participated in the Sogn og Fjordane talent program, the so-called “Laurdagsskulen”). In 2014 she participated in National Youth Artists Championship (Ungdommens Musikkmeesterskap), won the regional final in Bergen, and became second in the national final in Oslo. After being awarded Høyanger kommunes Drømmestipend, she started studying singing at The Grieg Academy in Bergen I 2015. Annika has done several TV performances, and has been doing concerts with SOFORK, Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra and “Sølvguttene”. In October 2015 she sang at the concert with young talents at Oslo Operafestival.



CARL-CHRISTIAN KURE

Carl-Christian Kure started his musical career as a flutist in “Sarpsborg jente- og guttekorps” at the age of 9. At “Greåker upper secondary School” he had Olav Ruud as his first singing teacher, and he sang Anatoly in Chess, and other soloist parts in the school’s choir. Carl-Christian has given solo concerts both in Norway and abroad, for example at Oslo Operafestival and Hvar summer festival in Croatia. His voice teachers are Ellen Westberg Andersen and prof. Barbro Marklund-Petersone. He has taken part in master classes with Tom Erik Lie, Bo Skovhus, Håkan Hagegård, Matti Hirvonen, Tor Espen Aspaas, Helene Ziebarth and Folke Bengtsson. The last two years he has been a member of the choir at Oscarsborg Opera and participated in the following productions: “Flaggermusen” (2015), “Rigoletto” (2014) and “Elskovsdrikken” (2013). He is also singing in Schola Cantorum, and toured to Spain, London, Kiev, and Paris. In the spring 2014 he sang one of the solo parts in a new opera written by Knut Vaage for Opera Østfold, and in 2015 he sang Notarius and Merö in The Academy of Opera’s production “Czardazfyrstinnen”. This year he will be singing several solo parts such as Benjamin Vogt in a new opera written by Kjell Habbestad during Oslo Opera festival.



CECILIA LUND TOMTER

Cecilia Lund Tomter (21) is a young mezzosoprano from Oslo, Norway. She started playing the violin at the age of three, and continued for ten years. Singing became an increasingly important part of her life in the early teens, first through musicals, and then jazz. During her years at Foss upper secondary school she had Pål Rullestad as her voice teacher and over time her main musical interest turned towards classical singing. After upper secondary school she studied one year at “Toneheim Folkehøgskole” where she had Matthew Mark Marriott as teacher. Cecilia has been working with repertoire from composers like Brahms, Saint-Saëns, Schumann, Grieg, Bach, Bellini, Mozart og Strauss, and has performed at for example “Hamar Kulturhus”, “Freiasalen”, Uranienborg

Church, “Lindemansalen”, Paulus church and the Opera to the People stage. In 2015 Cecilia received a scholarship from the Tom Wilhelmsen foundation, in addition to winning the Matthew Mark Marriott voice scholarship award. She began her studies for a bachelor’s degree in singing at the Norwegian Music Academy in the autumn 2015 with Professor Barbro Marklund-Petersone as her teacher.



DOMINIKA DOBROLINSKA

Dominika Dobrolinska (22) is studying opera singing at the Poznań Music Academy, in Barbara Madra class. She won the Wojciech Drabowicz Scholarship Prize in 2015, and has performed in upper secondary school productions such as “Don Giovanni” by W.A. Mozart, “Cinderella” by G. Rossini, “Fra Diavolo” by D. F. E. Auber and “Apothecary” by J. Haydn. Dominika has taken part in a number of master classes (Anton Michailov – Russia, Eva Blachowa – Bratislava, Sonia Turchetta - Milan, Joanna Klisowska - Rovereto, Italy, Joanna Kozłowska – Poznan, Piotr Micinski - Lodz), and is also the prize-winner of several national competitions.



EVA LANGELAND GJERDE

Eva Langeland Gjerde (20) comes from Horten, Norway. She started her singing career at “Kulturskolen” in Horten, first in the choir, thereafter with individual vocal lessons tutored by Frøydis Waaler. She has through the years participated in several productions at “Kulturskolen”. Eva has taken part in a number of master classes with Kristin Kjølborg, Mona Julsrud, Svein Bjørkøy, Torgun Birkeland and Elizabeth Norberg-Schulz. The last year she has had Solveig Kringlebott as her vocal teacher. She won the Vestfold county prize in the Midgard competition in 2015, and has sung in concerts in Horten and Vestfold county. A particular highlight was singing with The Royal Norwegian Navy’s Band on the 17th of May 2015 (Norway’s constitution day). Last autumn Eva began studying classical singing at “Toneheim Folkehøgskole” with Anna Sundström Otervik as vocal teacher, and intends to continue her education either at Barratt Due’s College or at The Norwegian Music Academy.



INGEBORG EKELAND

Ingeborg Ekeland (24) is a young soprano from Bergen, Norway. Her musical career started with violin lesson at “Bergen Kulturskole” at the age of seven. She still enjoys playing the violin as a member of “Bergen Unge Kammerorkester”. Ingeborg’s passion for singing really took off when she became a member of “Jentekoret ved Høgskolen i Bergen”, conducted and led by Maria Gamborg Helbekkmo. Later she also was accepted to the talent program at “Bergen Kulturskole”, and as a member of Voci Nobili.

She is now studying for a bachelor in classical singing at the Grieg Academy, tutored by Hilde Haraldsen Sveen.

Ingeborg has travelled a lot and taken classes among others at Manhattan School of Music and The Royal Danish Academy of Music. She was approved for the Skive Opera Academy in 2015. In addition to singing in choirs and vocal groups (particularly Edvard Grieg Youth Choir and Multa Paucis), Ingeborg is an active soloist, and has performed with among others “Bergen Unge Kammerorkester”, “BFUng”, Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra and “Sjøforsvarets Musikkorps” in concerts both in Norway and abroad. Ingeborg is graduating from the Grieg Academy this summer, and hopes to fulfil her dream, which is opera studies in Germany.



JULIA SOFIE FJÆRLI

Julia Sofie Fjærli (20) comes from Tømrefjord, Møre og Romsdal, Norway. She has been interested in music for several years, and after one year of music education at Fagerlia upper secondary School, she started classical singing. Julia Sofie is now a student at “Toneheim Folkehøgskole”, and intends to go for a career in classical music.



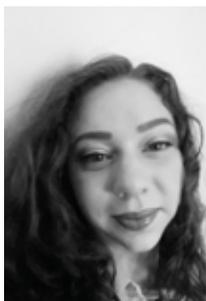
KAMILLA MARIE HANSEN

Kamilla Marie Hansen (17) is a student at Vågen upper secondary School. She has since 2008 studied singing at “Klepp Kulturskole” tutored by Anne Margrethe Eikaas Svanes. She has had roles as wolf in ”Jungelboken” (2011), mouse in ”Who kidnapped Constanza the mouse” (2013), pupil in ”Let’s make an Opera” (2014), and the witch in ”Den magiske skogen” (2015). The productions ” Who killed Constanza the mouse” and ”Let’s make an Opera” were performed at Oslo Opera festival. In 2015 Kamilla Marie participated in the Midgard Competition in Horten.



LYDIA HOEN TJORE

Lydia Hoen Tjore (21) from Radøy north of Bergen was accepted as a student at The Royal Danish Opera Academy in Copenhagen in 2015, as one of the youngest ever. When she was only 17 she started at the Royal Danish Academy of Music where she finished her bachelor’s degree at the age of 20. Her voice teacher is Susanna Eken. Before she moved to Denmark she was connected to the Grieg Academy in Bergen in their young talent program, studying with voice teacher Hilde Haraldsen Sveen. Lydia has done a lot of concerts in Norway and abroad since she was a young teenager. She is also a four times winner of her class in the National Youth Artists Championship (Ungdommens Musikkmeesterskap).



MARIE-ELISE HERREDSVELA

Marie-Elise Herredsvela (20) from Stavanger has studied classical singing in “Hå Kulturskole”, Vågen Secondary School, Department of music, and currently in University of Stavanger, Department of Music and Dance with prof. Elizabeth Norberg-Schulz

In “Hå Kulturskole” she has participated in several productions of children’s operas, such as “The magical forest” (2015), “Let’s make an opera / The little sweep” by Benjamin Britten (2014), “Who kidnapped Constanza the mouse?” by Roberta Vacca (2013) and “Brundibar” by Hans Krása (2012).

Together with Maria Leonora Våland, Marie-Elise reached the county finals in “Ungdommens Kulturmonstring”, with the duet “Barcarole” from “The tales of Hoffmann” by Offenbach. They had a full concert together the spring of 2015 with «Haugtussa», arias and duets on the program.

In 2015 Marie-Elise participated in the production of «David and Bathsheba», an opera oratorium by Ståle Kleiberg in “Stavanger Domkirke”. In the autumn of 2015 she was invited to sing at “Unge Talenter” (young talents) - a concert for young talents during the Oslo Opera festival.

In the spring of 2016 she had the role of the third lady in “Die Zauberflöte” by Mozart, staged by the University of Stavanger, Department of Music and Dance.



MATHILDE RUUD

Mathilde Ruud (16) comes from Stavanger, Norway. Through the years I have played the violin for six years, piano for two (now, also at school) as well as the guitar.

I have been singing all my life, and 12 of the years have included singing in different choirs. 4 years in a children’s choir, 2 years in a youth choir, and now I am in my 6th year in VIVA, “Sandnes Kulturskole’s” choir, where I sing 1st soprano, and for some songs I sing alto and second alto. I now attend a music school situated in Sandnes, called Vaagen. It’s my first year, and so far I’m loving it. At this school my main instrument is singing. During my time in VIVA I have also received private singing instruction by the conductor, Liv Hugstmyr Særheim. VIVA will attend the Grieg International Choir Festival, which for me will be the third time. Back in 2011 we won, an amazing experience. Thanks to VIVA I have amazing experience from South Africa, USA, Scotland, Sweden, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Poland and so on. In these different countries we’ve had several concerts, for example in New York we attended the world premiere of Gloria, by Kristian Grases, in Carnegie Hall.



SILJE MØRCH

Silje Mørch (22) started singing in a choir at the age of ten, and began taking singing lessons at the age of fourteen. She studied at Lillestrøm upper secondary School, music branch, from 2009 to 2012 with singing as main instrument. Then she spent one year at “Toneheim Folkehøgskole”, and one year at Fjellhaug international upper secondary School. She is currently in her first year at the Grieg Academy studying singing.

In 2011 she received “Drømmestipendet” (given by “Norsk kulturråd” and “Norsk Tipping”). Silje has twice participated in the competition National Youth Artists Championship (Ungdommens Musikkmeesterskap), where she the second time won the 1st prize, and also an inspiration prize.



STEFFEN SIGGERVÅG SORTLAND

Steffen Siggervåg Sortland (19) comes from Bømlo, in Hordaland, Norway. He has had singing and music as a hobby for many years, but it was not until his first year at Stord upper secondary school he really became interested in classical singing. Afterwards he has made great progress, and has decided to aim for a career in classical singing. This year he is studying at “Toneheim Folkehøgskole”.



SUNNIVA UNSGÅRD

Sunniva Unsgård (23) has studied classical singing at NTNU, Institute for Music with prof. Kåre Bjørkøy, and at Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler, Berlin, with prof. Norma Sharp. In 2009 og 2010 she was awarded Adressas Juniorstipend, Drømmestipendet og Tæl-Stipend. She has attended master classes with prof. Andreas Schmidt (HfMT München), prof. Susanna Eken and prof. Anne Margrethe Dahl (The Royal Danish Music Academy) and prof. Elisabeth Nordberg-Schultz (Rogaland Music Academy). She has for example played parts in «Tryllefloyten» by Mozart, in «Tolvskillingsoperaen» by Brecht / Weill, in «Olav Engelbrektsson» by Sommerro, and in «Der Tod Jesu» by Graun (soprano solo).



SUSANN KLUBBEN

Susann Klubben (19) is a young woman who sings classical music. I have sung in different choirs, and I am now currently singing in the Norwegian National Youth Choir (NUK), and have been there a year. I have sung in three different choirs, the local youth choir “Fjell kulturskulekor” for 5 years, the Welsh choir Cardiff County & Vale of Glamorgan Youth Choir for 1 year, and now I am singing in NUK. I have also taken vocal training lessons for 4.5 years. My singing teacher has helped me develop my voice, and is motivating me to rehearse and improve further. I also play in a rhythmical band, and occasionally sing with the local youth choir in concerts and on other special occasions. I started singing classical music in 2013 and have continued since then, but I still sing other types of music like jazz and songs from musicals.



SYNNE MARIE RUI VINJE

Synne Marie Rui Vinje (21) comes from Oslo. She started singing at «Bærum Musikk- og Kulturskole» with Randi Gunn Tanem as vocal teacher, and continued singing studies with Åshild Kyvik Bauge as teacher. In 2013/2014 she studied at “Toneheim Folkehøgskole” with Anna Sundstöm Otervik as teacher. From 2014 she has been studying at the Norwegian Music Academy, first with Kirsten Taranger and now with prof. Barbro Marklund-Petersone as teacher. Synne Marie has been awarded a scholarship from “Bærum Musikk- og Kulturskole”, and the “Drømmestipendet” from “Kulturskolerådet” and “Norsk Tipping”. She has won 1st and 2nd prizes in National Youth Artists Championship (Ungdommens Musikkmeesterskap) both in regional finals and national finals. Synne Marie has performed on several occasions, a.o. in «Bærum Kulturhus», «Hamar Domkirke» og the National Theatre. In 2015 she sang solo at the Wolf-seminar during the Chamber Music week with prof. Bo Skovhus and prof. Randi Stene, at the Norwegian premiere of «Mannahatta» by Maja Linderoth and as Flora in «The Turn of the Screw» by Britten at the Norwegian Music Academy.



VIZMA ZVAIGZNE

Vizma Zvaigzne (23) is a young Latvian mezzo-soprano who was born in Sigulda, Latvia in 1992 and gained her first musical experiences as a child through Latvian traditional music. At the age of 7 she started to attend Sigulda Music School and learned to play the piano. Professional musical education continued in Riga Dome Choir school learning with Mrs. Valda Dzene, after which she started bachelor studies in Music Theory in Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music (Jāzepa Vītola Latvijas Mūzikas akadēmija), and spent an Erasmus exchange semester in the State Music Academy Stuttgart (Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Stuttgart) in Germany having voice lessons with Norwegian soprano Prof. Turid Karlsen. Since April 2015 she has started her bachelor in the Voice program at the Hanns Eisler Academy of Music (Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler Berlin) in Berlin, Germany with Prof. Kammersängerin Uta Priew. Vizma Zvaigzne has a keen interest in romantic and contemporary chamber music, and the young singer often collaborates with international contemporary composers. She regularly gives concerts and takes part in festivals and master classes in Latvia and Germany.