

Gunhild Alsvik grew up in Norway and studied voice performance at the National Academy of Music in Oslo. Her passion for Early Music brought her to the academy of the Schola Cantorum in Basel, Switzerland, where she still resides.

The base of her career was built on a wide repertoire, performed with world renowned ensembles like Collegium Vocale Gent, La Chapelle Rhénane as well as the Balthasar-Neumann-Chor and conductors like Georg Christoph Biller, Alan Curtis and Jordi Savall, giving her a rich palette of experiences on the concert stage. Her warm and rich voice opened the way to a career as a soloist.

Her current concert repertoire includes Bach's b-minor mass, the St. John's- and St. Matthew passions and Magnificat, Handel's Israel in Egypt and Theodora, Haydn's masses and oratorios, Mozart's c-minor mass (Soprano 2), Beethoven's Kantate zur Erhebung Leopold II, Spohr's Der Fall Babylons, Mendelssohn's Wie der Hirsch schreit, Hör mein Bitten and Elias, and Mahler's 4. Symphonie. Works close to her heart are Strauss' Vier 4 Letzte Lieder, Britten's War Requiem und Handel's Alcina.

The only child of an archaeologist (specializing in Vikings in Russia and the Viking age) and cultural historian, Gunhild literally grew up in an open-air museum, where their house was situated (yes, with modern amenities), her playmates were two goats who also lived in the open-air museum and when the weather was nice and inspiration hit, she would often sit in the window of her room and sing for the tourists passing by. Vacations were spent on archaeological digs and other museums, often in the USSR and USA, and boredom made Gunhild an avid reader at an early age.

The lockdowns during the corona pandemic in 2020/21 allowed her to dive into her deep interest in cultural history, studying the European witch trials at the University of Oslo. If world politics would allow it, she dreams of visiting the cradles of modern culture in the Middle East.

Upcoming concerts includes Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle, Bach's St. John's passion and solo cantatas, Mozart's Exsultate Jubilate, Mendelssohn's Elias and a solo recital with pieces by Strauss, Mahler and Sibelius.

Free time, which ideally should be spent outside in nature, is rather often spent indoors on creative projects. She sews backpacks and bags which are sold internationally and are found all over the world under the brand name Benign Viking (which in an oxymoron, as such a thing did not exist).

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