PARK AVENUE ARMORY

## MEDIA ALERT Recital Series: Michael Spyres & Mathieu Pordoy

WHAT: One of the most sought-after tenors of his generation, Michael Spyres has been seen on stages across Europe and the United States including La Scala, Wiener Staatsoper, the Aix-en-Provence Festival, and The Metropolitan Opera. He makes his North American solo recital debut in the intimate Board of Officers Room with pianist Mathieu Pordoy in a program of art song by Beethoven, Berlioz, and Liszt on September 7 and 9. Full repertoire listed below: Hector Berlioz Les nuits d'été, op. 7 Ludwig van Beethoven An die ferne Geliebte, op. 98 Berlioz/Liszt L'idée fixe, S. 395 Franz Liszt Tre sonetti di Petrarca WHERE: Board of Officers Room, Park Avenue Armory 643 Park Avenue New York, NY 10065 Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 7:30pm WHEN: Friday, September 9, 2022 at 8:00pm TICKETS: \$65 (plus fees) Tickets may be purchased online armoryonpark.org or by calling the Box Office at (212) 933-5812, Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 6:00pm. WHO: Michael Spyres was born and raised in the Ozarks and grew up in a musical family. He is one of the most sought-after tenors of his generation and has been celebrated on the stages of the world's most prestigious international opera houses, festivals, and concert halls. In the 2022-23 season, he appears in *Idomeneo* and *Norma* at the Metropolitan Opera, returns to the Paris Opera in Carmen, and performs in a new production of Semele in Munich. On the concert platform, Spyres appears in Beethoven's 9th Symphony at the Staatsoper Berlin, Verdi's Messa da Requiem in Paris, Handel's Messiah in London, The Dream of Gerontius in Manchester,

*Carmen* in Strasbourg and London, *Norma* in Hamburg and Cologne, and *La damnation de Faust* in St. Louis. Solo concerts and recitals lead him to New York, Washington DC, London, Paris, Berlin, Nîmes, Montpellier, and Antwerp.

In his meteoric rise Spyres has quickly established himself as one of the greatest singers of his generation and has sung at venues such as the Teatro alla Scala, Metropolitan Opera, Royal Opera Covent Garden, Paris Opéra National, Bayerische Staatsoper Munich, Teatro Real Madrid, Liceu Barcelona, Lyric Opera Chicago, La Monnaie, Dutch National Opera, Semperoper Dresden, Théâtre des Champs-Elysées, Carnegie Hall, Gewandhaus Leipzig, Bunka Kaikan Tokyo, Salzburg Festival, Aix-en-Provence Festival, Rossini Opera Festival Pesaro, Edinburgh Festival, and the BBC Proms. Since 2015 Spyres has had the honor to be the Artistic Director of his hometown opera company, the Ozarks Lyric Opera.

Spyres has worked with some of the world's most renowned conductors such as Barenboim, Davis, Elder, Gardiner, Gardner, Gergiev, Haïm, Hengelbrock, Luisi, Mariotti, Muti, Nézet-Séguin, Petrenko, Pidò, Rousset, Young, and Zedda.

French pianist and recitalist **Mathieu Pordoy** has emerged as one of the most promising coaches of his generation, having worked at the Vienna State Opera, Paris Opera, and Opernhaus Zürich. He also has given master classes at the Mariinsky Academy of Young Opera Singers and has held staff positions with the Canadian Vocal Arts Institute in Montreal and the International Vocal Arts Institute in Israel.

With Michael Spyres, he has given a series of recitals throughout Europe and Canada: Opéra de Bordeaux, Oper Frankfurt, Salle Gaveau, Festival de Lanaudière, Théâtre de l'Athénée, A Coruña, and Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.

In 2019, Pordoy made a double debut at Carnegie Hall in Berlioz's *Lálio* with Sir John Eliot Gardiner and in recital with Sabine Devieilhe, with whom he will tour with a new program "Vienna" in such places as Grand-Théâtre Bordeaux, Salle Pierre Boulez of Philharmonie de Paris, Wigmore Hall London, Opernhaus Zürich, Musikverein Vienna and Graz in the 2022-23 season. They will also record together a new album for Erato.

Since 2008, Pordoy has collaborated on productions every summer with the Festival d'Aixen-Provence and served as coach for the festival's young artists' academy. As a vocal coach and accompanist, he has served on the music staffs of the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Auditorio de Tenerife, Chorégies d'Orange, Oper Köln, Teatro Municipal de Santiago, and others.

Pordoy has collaborated with such conductors as Luisi, Gelmetti, Noseda, Gatti, Roth, Franck, and Altinoglu. He has given recitals and concerts at the Edinburgh International Festival, Opéra Bastille, Musée d'Orsay, and Les Musicales du Luberon, among other venues and festivals. Pordoy graduated with honors from the Paris Conservatoire, where he taught from 2006 to 2011.

- HEALTH & Health and safety while at the Armory is of the utmost importance. The Armory requires that all ticket holders be fully vaccinated. Upon entry to the building, ticket holders will be required to show proof of full vaccination (the New York State Excelsior Pass or a hard copy or photo of your vaccination card), as well as a government-issued photo ID. The Armory will continue to follow all city, state, and CDC guidelines in regard to COVID-19 safety protocols. All patrons and staff are required to wear masks while inside the Armory (N95, KN95 or KF94 masks are encouraged).
- **SPONSORS:** Citi and Bloomberg Philanthropies are the Armory's 2022 Season Sponsors. The Recital Series is supported in part by The Reed Foundation and the Howard & Sarah D. Solomon Foundation.

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## **Media Contacts**

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