



## **VINCENT KUSTERS** **BARITONE**

Dutch baritone Vincent Kusters feels at home in both oratorio and opera and has a great affinity with classical art song. At an early age he sang in choirs and received his first piano lessons. After he started taking singing lessons at the music school in his birthplace Maastricht at the age of ten, performances as a boy soprano soon followed. In 2008 he was a prize winner in the category for voice of Princes

Christina Concours.

At the age of sixteen, Vincent Kusters was admitted into the Young Talent Class of Conservatorium Maastricht, where he subsequently studied both singing and piano. He attained a Master's in both studies in 2016 and 2017 respectively with Mya Besselink and Joop Celis. During his time in Maastricht, he studied singing in the winter of 2014/15 with Reginaldo Pinheiro at the Hochschule für Musik Freiburg and, a year later, piano with Willem Brons at Conservatorium van Amsterdam. In 2018, the artist also completed the choral conducting application course at Utrechts Conservatorium.

During his studies, Vincent Kusters developed into a versatile musician who feels at home in various genres and diverse styles. He participated in several singing masterclasses with, among others: Elly Ameling; Robert Holl; Meinard Kraak; Maarten Koningsberger; Mozart Masterclass (International Vocal Competition 's-Hertogenbosch) with Thomas Oliemans, Roberta Alexander and Vesselina Kasarova; Liedkunst im Schloss vor Husum with Ulf Bästlein en Charles Spencer; Grote Zangers with Sergei Leiferkus.

Vincent Kusters has won several prizes for his lieder interpretation, such as the Vocallis Liedprijs (Vaals, 2017 and 2018) and he is prize winner of the Schumann Wettbewerb (Zwickau, 2020/2021). Together with his duo partner, pianist Charlie Bo Meijering, he won the prize 'Friends of the International Vocal Competition 's-Hertogenbosch 2019), 1st prize during 'Liedkunst im Schloss vor Husum' (2021 and 2023) and 'Young Artist Platform' of International Lied Festival Zeist (2021).

The bariton also won the 1st prize at Internationaler Wettbewerb für Orgel und Gesang together with organist Nick Goudkuil (Neuss, 2020).

Vincent Kusters is a member of the Schola Maastricht, an ensemble that specialises in Gregorian chant, and is the organist/conductor of the Bartholomeuskerk in Eckelrade. He is also a cantor/organist at the Sint-Martinuskerk in Gronsveld.