



**JOEL
FREDERIKSEN
- A DAY WITH SUZANNE -**

A TRIBUTE TO LEONARD COHEN

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Joel Frederiksen, world renowned as one of the best bass voices and lutenists in the current music scene, presents his new album, *A Day with Suzanne*, a tribute to the legendary Canadian song writer Leonard Cohen.

Cohen's distinctive old tunes are translated into a dreamlike sound universe where "Suzanne", "Hallelujah" or "A Thousand Kisses Deep" come together in the atmosphere of Renaissance chansons intimately intertwined in compositions by Josquin des Prés, Pierre De Phoenix, or Orlando di Lasso.

The result is a gorgeous program where Leonard Cohen's melodies blend with the French Renaissance and recreate a beautiful atmosphere with the accompaniment of period instruments and the great voices of Joel Frederiksen and Emma-Lisa Roux.

With regard to feelings of love and human concerns, the great issues in our lives, it seems as if nothing has changed for us humans since Renaissance times. Reading the lyrics of Cohen and the lyrics of the Renaissance composers one realizes they speak about the same thing, about our longing for freedom and happiness.

Joel Frederiksen has gained worldwide recognition over the years as an early music specialist making him a unique reference in his genre. His recording of "Requiem for a Pink Moon" was awarded with the German Echo in 2013. He is well remembered by his outstanding performances along with artists the likes of Dame Emma Kirkby, Andrew Parrott, Ruben Dubrovsky, and Jordi Savall as well as with first-rate ensembles such as the Netherlands Bach Society, Freiburger Baroque Orchestra, the Bach Consort Wien, Ensemble Gilles Binchois and Huelgas Ensemble.

A Day with Suzanne features Hille Perl, one of Europe's most renowned viola da gamba players, Emma-Lisa Roux, whose study at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis ensured her success as a singer and lutenist, and Domen Marinčič, a prize-winning viola da gamba player at the International Competition Bach-Abel in Köthen.

The project *A Day with Suzanne*, was released in January 2023 on the prestigious Sony / Deutsche Harmonia Mundi, the music label that Joel Frederiksen has been working closely with for years.

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In Joel Frederiksen, voice and strings come together brilliantly. A deep voice, very versatile, suggestive and beautiful, which he accompanies himself on the lute, archlute, vihuela or guitar. Frederiksen studied voice and lute in New York and Michigan. Between 1990 and 1999, he was a member of the American early music ensembles The Waverly Consort and Boston Camerata. His deep bass singing and expressive interpretations have earned him worldwide acclaim. Likewise, the combination of early music with that of modern composers such as Nick Drake or Leonard Cohen demonstrates his profound knowledge of music not only as a performer but also as an arranger with a taste that is as elegant as it is simple.

In 2003, after moving to Germany, he founded Ensemble Phoenix Munich (EPM) for the recording of the CD "Orpheus, I am". With this ensemble, he has explored the English, Italian, French, and German repertoire of the Renaissance and Baroque periods. Forays into the earliest music of Frederiksen's homeland, the United States, saw the release of the acclaimed harmonia mundi France CD "Rose of Sharon" in 2011. Moreover, Joel Frederiksen enjoys a very special bond with the Hispanic culture of both Spain and Latin America.

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CONTACT

mta@miottaemoliere.com

javier.briongos@miottaemoliere.com

A PROJECT BY:

Miotta  Molière

WWW.MIOTTAEMOLIERE.COM

