

Mario Frangoulis & Sarah Brightman Team Up for Her "Gala" Tour This Summer!

Globally acclaimed tenor Mario Frangoulis has joined forces with his colleague and friend, soprano Sarah Brightman on her Gala Tour throughout Asia.

NEW YORK, NY, UNITED STATES, July 7, 2016 /EINPresswire.com/ -- This special collaboration brings Mario Frangoulis back to Japan after several years where he performed with the Tokyo City Philharmonic Orchestra and guest soprano Maki Mori in support of his second Sony Classical release Follow Your Heart. Although he recently made it back to Asia in 2014 as the featured artist at Bangkok's famous International Festival for Dance & Music, he is thrilled to be returning to Japan and performing for the first time in South Korea and China. The Gala Tour features a Classical Crossover repertoire that Frangoulis and Brightman fans across Asia have been waiting for. The two artists will share incredible moments with duets like "Phantom of the Opera," "Canto De La Terra" and "Carpe Diem," recorded with Frangoulis on Brightman's "Winter Symphony" album, which he also features as a bonus track on "Tales of Christmas," his first holiday album released in 2015. Joining the two singers are pianist Di Wu, counter tenor Narcis, and maestro Paul Bateman, the show is directed by Anthony Van Laast.

Frangoulis and Brightman share many things in common: both have deep roots in Musical Theatre, performing in Phantom of the Opera where Brightman originated the role of Christine Daaé and Frangoulis played the role of Raoul after playing the romantic hero Marius in Cameron Mackintosh's Les Misérables. Both sing in over 6 languages, and both are pioneering artists in the Classical Crossover genre. They have also been featured artists at the Olympic Games (Brightman in Barcelona in 1992 and Beijing in 2008; Frangoulis in Athens in 2004), cast on the theater stage and the big screen, and both have collaborated in the past with Jose Carreras as well as China's beloved singer and songwriter Liu Huan!

This formidable collaboration launched at the Starmus Conference in Spain, where the artists paid tribute to Dr. Stephen Hawking, along with some of the most acclaimed scientists, artists and thinkers in the world (www.starmus.com). The tour has arrived in Japan for the first concert on July 7, 2016 in Sapporo.

As Frangoulis says, "I am so happy to be returning to Asia. My memories of Japan are vivid – the people, the refinement and precision of the musicians and the culture – that kind of pursuit of excellence is an ancient Greek ideal, and a trait I admire. Of course, being on stage with <u>Sarah Brightman</u> again is like "being home." We share so many things in common, and our collaboration is effortless. As I have stated to all of my fans online, I particularly like the Gala Tour concept because it brings us both back to our roots in the theatre and classical music."

Mario Frangoulis' fans have long been aware of his far-reaching talent – from musical and ancient Greek theatre to winning the Maria Callas and Pavarotti competitions to performing with world-renowned orchestras including the Boston Pops, Chicago Symphony, Dallas Symphony, Tokyo Philharmonic, and most recently the Philharmonia Orchestra.

For more information and concert dates go to: www.mariofrangoulis.com, www.

<u>facebook</u>.com/mariofrangoulis, <u>www.instagram.com/mariofrangoulis</u>, <u>www.twitter.com/mariofrangoulis</u>, or contact Andrea Stassou for all publicity at: andreastassou@icloud.com. In Asia contact Mary Telemachou at info@mariofrangoulis.com.

Andrea Stassou Beautifulthings Productions Ltd email us here 201-394-1903

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