

Swedes Worldwide is a nonprofit, independent organization founded in 1938, which this year celebrates 80 years of service to Swedes living abroad. The organization represents the 660 000 Swedes who live outside Sweden and Swedish clubs and associations, Chambers of Commerce, Swedish schools and the Swedish Church Abroad. Swedes Worldwide work for Swedish expatriates' best by surveying, informing and influencing issues to get the best possible terms.



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PRESSRELEASE

Nina Stemme is International Swede of the Year 2018

The award International Swede of the Year is this year given the opera singer Nina Stemme. The winner receives the prize at a ceremony at the Grand Hôtel in Stockholm today, as Swedes Worldwide celebrates its 80th anniversary. The anniversary lunch takes place at 1-3 pm and the prize ceremony takes place at around 2 pm. Since 1988, the organization Swedes Worldwide annually honors a Swede for accomplishments abroad and who high lightens Sweden internationally in culture, commerce, science, sports, and the humanitarian field.

– It is a great pleasure for me to pay tribute to one of the brilliant stars of the Opera Art today," says General Secretary of Swedes Worldwide Karin Ehnбом-Palmquist. Nina Stemme is one of the world's most sought after sopranos and we are very proud of the goodwill for Sweden she spreads through her artistry. She is a very worthy winner of the award International Swede of the Year 2018, mrs Ehnбом-Palmquist says.

The motivation for this year's award of the Swede of the Year Abroad 2018 reads:

Nina Stemme is the Swedish soprano opera singer who has taken the world by storm. She has been depicted as the world's best singer and most dramatic soprano since Birgit Nilsson. She began her career as lyric soprano in roles like Cherubino, Pamina and Countess in Figaro's wedding. She has since developed into excellence in the most dramatic roles of the opera world. Nina performed for the first time at Metropolitan Opera in Wagner's Flying Dutchman in 2000 and has since then continued to be offered great dramatic roles on the world's opera theaters. Two major successes at the Metropolitan Opera 2016 were Elektra and Tristan and Isolde, who rendered the most overwhelming praise ever in the New York Times.

This summer Nina sang Kundry in Parsifal on the Bayerische Staatsoper in Munich and performed Brünnhilde in the Nibelung Ring in the same opera house. She is now rehearsing Wagner's Ring at the Royal Opera House in London. Later this fall, Nina will receive the prestigious Birgit Nilsson Prizes from HM King Carl XVI Gustaf.

Nina Stemme comments the award on our website;
<http://www.sviv.se/en/nina-stemme-about-the-award-international-swede-of-the-year/>.

The award International Swede of the Year has in recent years i.e. awarded to Staffan de Mistura, Max Martin, Anne-Sofie von Otter, Hans Blix, Annika Sörenstam and Peter Wallenberg. For a complete list (in Swedish) of former prize winners, check our website;
<http://www.sviv.se/om-oss/arets-svensk-i-varlden/>.

This press release and press photos are published on our website; www.sviv.se/pressrum.

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