

STIG ROSSEN – Biography

Stig Rossen trained to be an actor in London at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (1987 – 1990). Early in 1990 he was offered a place in the ensemble of the London production of *Les Misérables*, and after just three months he was asked to take over the lead role as Jean Valjean. This dream role gave him his international breakthrough and he has since then played this particular part more than 1500 times in 10 different countries.

Musically, it all started in 1988 with the Danish competition for the Eurovision Song Contest, a cartwheel jump and the song "We are dancing rock and roll" ("Vi danser rock og rul"). Since then he has made 21 cd's of which 5 are Christmas cd's. He has also made a not negligible number of musical cd's and concert dvd's. In addition, he has been published in duets with Dee Dee Bridgewater, Amy Sky, Nana Mouskouri, Grethe Ingmann, Trine Gadeberg and Ann-Mette Elten, and he can be found as guest performer on cd's published by among others Per Nielsen, DJ Alligator and the Canadian group "Barrage".

Stig Rossen made his début on the musical stage in 1977 at the tender age of 15, when he became an active part of Kolding Musical Festival. Until 1987 he played a variety of parts here such as Sigismund in "Summer in Tirol" ("Sommer i Tyrol") and Count Danilo in "The Merry Widow". Since then he has played a variety of parts in Danish theatre productions such as "Tordenskiold – A Naval Hero" (Tordenskiold), "Die Fledermaus", "Les Misérables", "Chess", "The Egtved Girl" ("Egtved Pigen"), "Ballads About Art and Love" ("Ballader om kunst og kærlighed"), "Jesus Christ Superstar", "Copacabana", "The Colour of Love" ("Kærlighedens farve"), "Sweeney Todd", "Waiting for Godot" and "The Frigate Jutland" ("Fregatten Jylland"). The 3 musicals "Chess", "Copacabana" and "Les Misérables" were produced by Rossen & Roennow Musical Productions.

Stig Rossen has supplied his voice to a number of animated Disney movies such as "Mulan", "Mulan 2", "Lilo & Stich", "The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian" and "Big Hero 6". Furthermore, he has recorded the Danish versions of Phil Collins' songs for "Tarzan", "Tarzan 2" and "Brother Bear".

Stig Rossen made his début as an actor on Danish television in 2002 where he had a guest role in an episode of the crime series "The Flying Squad" ("Rejseholdet"). Since then he has appeared in TV series such as "Clown", "Thank God You Came" ("Gu'ske lov du kom") and most recent in "Sjit happens" (2015).

By pure chance Stig Rossen got the opportunity to perform at a PBS Pledge show in 2003. This show was aired both in USA and Canada.

Stig Rossen was appointed HCA ambassador in 2005 on the occasion of Hans Christian Andersen's 200th birthday. This was also the year where he was recalled to USA by the television network PBS, which led to TV concerts in the US and Canada. Later in 2005 he made his first of what have since become many concert tours in the US.

In October 2006 Stig Rossen published a combined textbook and biography titled "Life should not be lived on automatic pilot" ("Livet skal ikke leves på automatpilot"). The book is based on his lecture "Kiss the Routine" ("Kys rutinen") and is build upon his experiences from this.

In 2008 Stig Rossen got the idea for a theatre concert about the first Danish "boy band" Four Jacks. Together with Keld Heick, Jesper Asholt, Jesper Lohmann and with Stig Rossen himself in the part of John Mogensen they premiered in April 2008 with the show "Four Jacks – Oh that journey to Mandalay" ("Four Jacks – Åh, den vej til Mandalay"). This success was followed up with the theatre concert "More Jacks" in 2011 and the third chapter "Four Jacks For Ever" will have its first performance in September 2015.

After the sudden death of the Danish singer Flemming Bamse Joergensen on the night of New Year 2011, Stig Rossen was asked to take over as lead singer at a planned concert at "Syvstenshallen" near Saebj. This concert and the following memorial concert has resulted in the concept "Stig and Friends", and they perform with songs from Flemming Bamse Joergensen's huge repertory of songs whenever the schedule allows, to the delight of many fans.

Since his appointment to HCA ambassador in 2005 more ambassador titles have followed for Stig Rossen. He is now ambassador for KidsandMedia, The Christmas Seal Foundation, Mandela Bangle and The Sclerosis Association. In addition, he has been appointed Kolding townsman/ambassador for the castle Koldinghus and Kolding City, an appointment given by Business Kolding and the Koldinghus Order.