## An Afternoon with Stefan Vinke & Christmas Party, 25 November 2018

2.00pm, Stefan Vinke - a Q&A session at St Columba's Centre, 53a Ocean Street, Woollahra Followed by: Christmas Party

The annual Christmas Party had a very special guest of honour this year – Stefan Vinke, fresh from his wonderful Meistersinger performances in Melbourne. Unfortunately Stefan had a virus and was unable to sing but he talked about his career and its highlights for well over an hour, in response to questions from our Past President Jane Mathews and many enthusiastic audience members.

This was followed by Christmas drinks and nibbles and a raffle draw, with many desirable prizes donated by generous members and friends.

Many thanks are due to VP Leona Geeves for her massive effort in pulling the event together.



Stefan Vinke with past president Jane Mathews

After studies in Cologne, Stefan sang young heroic tenor roles at the National Theatre Mannheim. In 2000, international opera magazine, Opernwelt voted him "best young singer of the year". He has sung both Siegfried roles in Cologne, Venice, Lissabon, Strasbourg, Weimar, Berlin Deutsche Oper and the Salzburg Easter Festival and Siegfried in the Melbourne Rings. More recently in Leipzig, he has sung all their leading tenor roles, including Tristan, Parsifal, Lohengrin, Erik, Rienzi, Bacchus and Don José as well as Walther von Stolzing.