

## Last chance for Swedish memorial concert and conference!

Most of you have received a special mailing from JBS-USA in early July about these upcoming events, but there is clearly something very special about being in Sweden for the centennial celebrations of the great Björling. The Scandinavian Society has put together an exciting program which will take us close to some of the high points of Jussi's brilliant career.

On Friday, September 2nd, there will be a gala concert at the Royal Swedish Opera, "Jussi Björling in Memoriam," with leading Swedish singers and acclaimed German tenor Jonas Kaufmann. Göran Forsling, administrator of the Björling jubilee committee, is still holding a few tickets and can be reached at [verbator@telia.com](mailto:verbator@telia.com). There are still some hotel rooms available for the conference.

The Stockholm events will take place Saturday, September 3rd, and Sunday the 4th, and will feature colleagues' recollections of JB, discussions of his vocal technique and career, as well as panel discussions on sound restoration, and a talk by Stephen Hastings based on his upcoming book, *THE BJÖRLING SOUND*. Walter Rudolph will talk about JB in the US, and there will be a bus tour of JB performance venues in Stockholm. This part of the conference will be conducted in English. A comfortable bus will transport attendees to Borlänge on Sunday evening.

On Monday the 5th there will be a group visit to Jussi's grave and Stora Tuna Church. Later, at the Jussi Björling Museum, Stephen Hastings will be joined by JBS recordings editor, Kristian Krogholm and other critics, for a wide-ranging discussion of the Björling art. Harald Henrysson will describe his work on the comprehensive Björling database. The day will conclude with a concert and dinner for attendees and local visitors. ■

JUSSI BJÖRLING SOCIETY

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## News from Voxna

The road leading from the main highway past the Voxna church has now been renamed Björlings väg (Björling Way). It was previously Nybrovägen (New Bridge Way) and is about a kilometer long. The name change was primarily the work of Cultural Commissioner Carina Isaaksson, who had worked with the Scandinavian Society in search of a way to commemorate the Björling centennial. The new street was officially opened by provincial governor Barbro Holmberg. ■

UK Society President Richard Copeman and speaker Simon Williams find common ground

