

CHRISTOPH BERNER

Christoph Berner's enormous stylistic spectrum and musical versatility is shown to audience and critics alike in his impressive discography of the last few years.

The recording of the Johannes Brahms' complete works for clarinet and piano with Laura Ruiz-Ferreres, the highly regarded recordings with the acclaimed tenor Werner Güra (the most recent a CD with Beethoven bagatelles and songs) and the release of Fin de siècle songs with the successful mezzosoprano Anke Vondung were awarded prestigious prizes, including the BBC Classic Award, the ECHO, the German record critics' award (quarterly critics' prize) and the Diapason d'or.

The cooperation with internationally sought-after chamber musicians and singers and an intensive study of historical pianos, including the fortepiano, have resulted in an extensive knowledge of the keyboard repertoire from Bach to contemporary music.

Christoph Berner was born in Vienna and studied at the university of his hometown with Imola Joo, Hans Graf and Hans Petermandl. In 1997 he graduated with unanimous distinction and afterwards he attended the master class of Maria Tipo at the Scuola di musica di Fiesole (Italy).

By winning the Boesendorfer Piano Competition in 1995, the 2nd prize of the International Beethoven Piano Competition in 1997 (Vienna) as well as the Mozart and Schumann prize at the Géza Anda Concours in 2003 (Zurich) Christoph Berner established his reputation as one of the leading pianists from Austria.

He was engaged as a soloist with orchestras like the Moscow Tchaikovsky Orchestra, the Orchestra National du Capitole de Toulouse, the Dresden Philharmonie, the Philharmonie Bergen, the Northern Sinfonia, the New Philharmonie Westfalen and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra under conductors like Neeme Järvi, Michel Plasson, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Andrew Litton, Johannes Wildner, Vladimir Fedosejev and Thomas Zehetmair.

His chamber music partners are the violinist Julia Schröder, the cellists Marko Ylönen and Roel Deltins, the clarinetist Laura Ruiz Ferreres and the Hugo Wolf quartet.

Christoph Berner has worked closely together with the tenor Werner Güra since 1999 – the duo are often guests at the Wigmore Hall, London, Vienna's Musikverein, the Palau de la Musica, Barcelona, the Cité de la musique, Paris, as well as at festivals like the Schubertiade Schwarzenberg, the Rheingau Music Festival, the Edinburgh Festival, the Kissinger Sommer, the Dias da musica, Lisbon and others.

Furthermore, Christoph Berner performed together with singers, such as Marlis Petersen, Anke Vondung, Bernarda Fink, Genia Kühmeier, Markus Werba, Markus Eiche and Florian Boesch as well as others.

Since 2014 he has been professor of vocal accompaniment and Lied interpretation at the Zurich university of arts.