

# Cellists' Corner

## Brief Career Details of Important Cellists

*prepared by David Johnstone from public information*

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## FEATURE ON RUDOLF WEINSHEIMER AND THE “12 CELLISTS”

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Cellist Rudolf Weinsheimer was born in 1931 in Wiesbaden. He chiefly studied with his father and with Karl Drebert.

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As a professional he was a member of the orchestra of the Berlin Philharmonic under Herbert von Karajan and Claudio Abbado for 40 years and is known as the founder of the ensemble of 12 cellists.

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He organized worldwide tours and was able to win over contemporary composers such as Boris Blacher, Arvo Pärt and Iannis Xenakis to compose their own works for the ensemble. He created a close relationship with the Waseda Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo.

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There is a recent biography released showing a passionate musician who, after the experiences of war in his early years, sets himself high goals and pursues his path with ambition and perseverance. During the Philharmoniker's concert tours with Karajan, he experiences how music becomes a peacemaker and how it conveys a new image of Germany. Looking back, it becomes clear that the selection of certain works from the 20th century - such as Shostakovich's 10th Symphony - also means dealing with the past.

This book:

“The seventh cellist: From the life of the Berliner Philharmoniker and founder of the 12 cellists Rudolf Weinsheimer Taschenbuch”

- released September 9, 2019

by Monika Borth

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**These are the entire lists of the regular members of the “12 Cellos” since their beginnings in 1974 -**

Alexander Wedow

Bruno Delepelaire

Chrisoph Igelbrink

Christoph Kapler

David Riniker  
Dietmar Schwalke  
Eberhard Finke  
Georg Faust  
Gerhard Woschny  
Götz Teutsch  
Heinrich Majowski  
Jan Diesselhorst  
Jörg Baumann  
Klaus Häussler  
Knut Weber  
Ludwig Quandt  
Martin Löhr  
Martin Menking  
Nikolaus Römisch  
Olaf Maninger  
Ottomar Borwitzky  
Peter Steiner  
Richard Duven  
Rudolf Weinsheimer  
Solène Kermarrec  
Stephan Koncz  
Wolfgang Boettcher

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**The current 12 cellists are:**

Bruno Delepelaire (\* 1989 in France); Member since 2013  
Richard Duven (\* 1958 in Cologne); Member since 1986  
Rachel Helleur-Simcock (\* 1980 in Great Britain); Member since 2009  
Christoph Igelbrink (\* 1958 in Düsseldorf); Member since 1989  
Solène Kermarrec (\* 1983 in Brest); Member since 2007  
Stephan Koncz (\* 1984 in Vienna); Member since 2010  
Martin Löhr (\* 1967 in Hamburg); Member since 1996  
Olaf Maninger (\* 1964 in Recklinghausen); Member since 1994  
Martin Menking (\* 1967 in Münster); Member since 1996  
Ludwig Quandt (\* 1961 in Ulm); Member since 1991  
David Riniker (\* 1970 in Basel); Member since 1995  
Nikolaus Römisch (\* 1972 in Berlin); Member since 2000  
Dietmar Schwalke (\* 1958 in Pinneberg); Member since 1994  
Knut Weber (\* 1974 in Klagenfurt); Member since 1998

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## Discography

1976: The 12 cellists of the Berlin Philharmonic

1983: Classic Meets Pops

1983: The Beatles in Classic

2000: South American Getaway

2002: Round Midnight

2004: As Time Goes By

2006: Angel Dances

2010: Fleur de Paris

2016: Hora Cero



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*'documenting the cello'* [www.johnstone-music.com](http://www.johnstone-music.com)

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