

Cellists' Corner

Brief Career Details of Important Cellists

prepared by David Johnstone from public information

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SPECIAL FEATURE on ALBAN GERHARDT

Cellist Alban Gerhardt has, for 25 years, made a unique impact on audiences worldwide with his intense musicality, compelling stage presence, and insatiable artistic curiosity. His gift for shedding fresh light on familiar scores, along with his appetite for investigating new repertoire from centuries past and present, sets him apart from his peers. Passionate about sharing his discoveries with audiences beyond the concert hall, his outreach projects in Europe and the US have involved performances and workshops, not only in schools and hospitals, but also through pioneering sessions in public spaces and young offender institutions.

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His collaboration with Deutsche Bahn, featuring live performances on Germany's main commuter routes, demonstrates his commitment to challenging traditional expectations of classical music. In early 2017, he founded #Musicians4UnitedEurope, a group of international musicians working together to voice their support for a united and democratic Europe.

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Following early competition success, Mr. Gerhardt's international career was launched by his Berlin Philharmonic debut with Semyon Bychkov in 1991. Notable orchestral collaborations since then include Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, all of the British and German radio orchestras, Zurich's Tonhalle Orchestra, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, Orchestre national de France, The Cleveland and Philadelphia Orchestras, and the Boston and Chicago Symphony Orchestras, under conductors such as Kurt Masur, Christoph von Dohnányi, Christian Thielemann, Christoph Eschenbach, Michael Tilson Thomas, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Vladimir Jurowski, Kirill Petrenko, and Andris Nelsons.

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A highly-acclaimed recording artist, Mr. Gerhardt has won several awards including BBC Music Magazine Award Unsuk Chin's Cello Concerto (Deutsche Grammophon), which was also shortlisted for a 2015 Gramophone Award. His extensive recordings for Hyperion include his latest CD, Rostropovich's Encores, released in January 2017. His complete recording of J.S. Bach's suites will be released in 2019.

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Alban Gerhardt plays a Matteo Gofriller cello dating from 1710.

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Here is a big interview, touching many aspects of his career, his musical thoughts and his general attitude to life:

ICS EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW!!! -

CONVERSATION WITH ALBAN GERHARDT by Tim Janof

<http://www.cello.org/Newsletter/Articles/gerhardt/gerhardt.htm>



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