

matthias kirschnereit | piano

“He is a musical expressionist par excellence, who continues the German piano artistry with his performance.” FAZ

Matthias Kirschnereit is counted amongst the most riveting and successful German pianists of his generation. The ECHO-Classic-Laureate performs 50 concerts annually and is celebrated as the “poet on the piano” by the Süddeutsche Zeitung. In this, he is following his artistic ideal of finding and communicating the musical emotions, the story and the human element of the pieces. He sees himself in the tradition of German pianists, which spans Kretschmar-Fischer Conrad Hansen, Edwin Fischer and Martin Krause, reaching back as far as Franz Liszt.



Matthias Kirschnereit has given concerts with leading institutions such as Tonhalle Orchester Zürich, Het Residentie Orkest Den Haag, St. Petersburger Philharmoniker, the SWR symphonic Orchestra Stuttgart, the Konzerthausorchester Berlin, the Bamberg Symphonics, Camerata Salzburg as well as the Munich chamber orchestra and cooperated with conductors such as Hartmut Haenchen, Bruno Weil, Christopher Hogwood, Carl St. Clair, Sándor Végh, Michael Sanderling, Frank Beermann, Alexander Liebreich, Yuri Temirkanov and Alondra de la Parra.

His concerts can be experienced in the prime musical venues all over the world, amongst others Konzerthaus and Philharmonie Berlin, Herkulessaal Munich, Festspielhaus Baden-Baden, Théâtre des Champs Élysées Paris, Tonhalle Zürich, Sala Verdi Milano, Rudolfinum Prag and the Teatro Municipal Santiago de Chile, Suntory Hall Tokio and Shanghai Oriental Art Center. Equally important to him are his moments of chamber musical intimacy during recitals, where he captivates his audience with his nuanced yet intensive interpretations.

His true love is chamber music. Amongst his musical partners one can find names such as Christian Tetzlaff, Sharon Kam, Alban Gerhardt, Daniel Müller-Schott, Felix Klieser, Carolin Widmann, Ingolf Turban, Julian Steckel, Nils Mönkemeyer, Kit Armstrong, the Klenke Quartett, the Vogler Quartett und the Verdi Quartett.

Since 2012, Matthias Kirschnereit is artistic manager of the Gezeitenkonzerte Ostfriesland - a festival amongst friends that gains renown year after year.

In the meantime, Matthias Kirschnereit has published 30 CDs, including the standard setting complete piano concerts of Mozart and Mendelssohn or the referential recordings of unconventional repertoires such as the piano concerts of Julius Röntgen or Händel's organ concerts arranged for piano. „Kirschnereit deserves all the praises coming to him these days!“ was the verdict of London's Gramophone Magazine regarding his internationally celebrated Solo-CDs with the works of Robert Schumann („Scenes“, 2010) and Franz Schubert („Wanderer Fantasy“, 2012). With equal fervour, the FonoForum hailed his newest playing of the “Songs without Words“ of Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy and his sister Fanny Hensel as “without comparison“. This record is the first time that all “Songs without Words“ of brother and sister have been collated for a complete overview.

Success in various competitions - Deutscher Musikwettbewerb, Concours Geza Anda Zürich, as well as piano competitions in Sydney and Pretoria - started his international career in the beginning of the 1990s. Until then, his history was unconventional: born in Westphalia, he left Germany at the age of nine to settle in Namibia with his family. As much as he was fascinated by the culture of southern Africa, he soon understood that his dream to be a pianist could only be realized in Germany. Returning home at the age of 14 on his own, he started to study under Prof. Renate Kretschmar-Fischer at the Detmold musical academy. Additional artistic impulses he took from his intensive cooperation with Murray Perahia, Claudio Arrau, Bruno Leonardo Gelber and Oleg Maisenberg.

His artistic ideals and the experience from his international concert activities he passes on to future generations as Professor at the school of Music and Theatre in Rostock. In his spare time, his interests are painting, soccer and Italian cuisine. He lives in Hamburg with his family.