



MARTIN HELMCHEN

Piano

“Mr Helmchen has a noble bearing and a noble sound, shaping lines as elegant and clean as a Greek temple’s.”

New York Times, Zachary Woolfe

With his highly virtuosic yet unpretentious style, pianist Martin Helmchen continues to impress the international music scene including superb debuts with Berlin Philharmonic and Herbert Blomstedt, Vienna Philharmonic and Valery Gergiev, London Philharmonic and Vladimir Jurowski and with City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and Andris Nelsons. In the USA, he has made his concerto debuts with New York Philharmonic at Carnegie Hall and at the Tanglewood Festival with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, on both occasions under the baton of Christoph von Dohnányi.

Martin Helmchen’s quest for exploring all facets of music making is born in his passion for collaboration, not only with orchestras, but also through chamber music and recitals - largely ignited in early collaborations with the late cellist Boris Pergamenschikow. Since 2010, Martin Helmchen has been an Associate Professor of chamber music at the Kronberg Academy.

In 2016/17, Martin Helmchen is guest soloist with major European orchestras including Hallé Orchestra Manchester under the baton of Andrew Manze, Philharmonia Orchestra and Herbert Blomstedt, Santa Cecilia Rom and David Afkham, Gewandhaus Orchester with Herbert Blomstedt, Nederlands Filharmonisch Orkest and Marc Albrecht, Tonhalle Orchester Zürich and Scottish Chamber Orchestra with Philippe Herreweghe as well as the Zurich Chamber Orchestra under Sir Roger Norrington. In France he tours with La Chambre Philharmonique under Emmanuel Krivine.

A passionate chamber musician, Martin Helmchen also continues a further collaboration with Julia Fischer on a tour of major cities in Asia. He gives solo recitals and duo performances with his wife and cellist Marie-Elisabeth Hecker in London, Paris, Brussels and in Germany where he is artist in residence at the Schwetzingen SWR Festival in 2017.

For PentaTone, Helmchen has recorded Mozart, Mendelssohn, Schumann and Dvořák concertos as well as solo recordings and chamber music by Schubert, Schumann and Brahms. His latest CD for outthere music contains both Brahms cello sonatas with Marie-Elisabeth Hecker.

Former student of Galina Iwanzowa in Berlin, Martin Helmchen still receives tutelage from Arie Vardie at the Hochschule für Musik, Hannover. Other mentors, with whom Martin regularly continues to study, are Alfred Brendel and William Grant Naboré from the Klavierakademie Comer See. An early impact on Helmchen’s career was winning the „2001 Clara Haskil Competition“. He was a Fellow of the “Borletti-Buitoni-Trust in 2005” and the “Credit Suisse Young Artist” in 2006 culminating with his debut with the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra under Valery Gergiev at the Lucerne Festival. Between 2005 and 2007, Martin Helmchen was a soloist on the “BBC New Generation Artists” scheme.

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