



Jörg Widmann

Curriculum vitae
(long version)

Clarinetist, composer, and conductor Jörg Widmann is one of the most versatile and intriguing artists of his generation. As Carnegie Hall's 2019/20 Richard and Barbara Debs Composer Chair his work was the season's focus. Future performances see him appear in all facets of his work. He appears as soloist with orchestras such as New World Symphony Orchestra and Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks and is artist in residence at WDR Sinfonieorchester and BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra.

Chamber music performances will see him in concerts with long-standing chamber music partners such as Daniel Barenboim, Denis Kozhukhin, the Quiroga and the Hagen Quartet at Philharmonie Essen, Dresdner Musikfestspiele, Pierre Boulez Saal Berlin, Grand Interpretes Toulouse and Wiener Konzerthaus amongst others.

Continuing his intense activities as a conductor, Jörg Widmann performs this season with the National Symphony Orchestra Taiwan, Mozarteumorchester Salzburg, as Visiting Composer with Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo, Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Philharmonique de Radio France.

Widmann studied clarinet with Gerd Starke in Munich and Charles Neidich at the Juilliard School in New York. He performs regularly with renowned orchestras, such as Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, Orchestra National de France, Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich, National Symphony Orchestra Washington, Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra and Toronto Symphony Orchestra. He collaborates with conductors such as Daniel Barenboim, Christoph Eschenbach, and Christoph von Dohnányi.

Widmann gave the world premiere of Mark Andre's Clarinet Concerto *über* at the Donaueschinger Musiktage 2015. Other clarinet concerti dedicated to and written for him include Wolfgang Rihm's *Musik für Klarinette und Orchester* (1999) and Aribert Reimann's *Cantus* (2006).

Widmann studied composition with Kay Westermann, Wilfried Hiller and Wolfgang Rihm. His works continue to receive many awards such as the prestigious Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Elise L. Stoecker Prize (2009), the Paul Hindemith Prize in 2001, the Arnold Schönberg Prize by the Vienna Arnold Schönberg Centre and the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (2004) and both the SWR Sinfonieorchester Baden-Baden und Freiburg's composition award and the Berliner Philharmoniker Academy's Claudio Abbado Composition Award in 2006.

Widmann's compositions are performed regularly by conductors such as Daniel Barenboim, Daniel Harding, Valery Gergiev, Kent Nagano, Christian Thielemann, Mariss Jansons, Andris Nelsons and Simon Rattle and premiered by orchestras such as the Wiener and Berliner Philharmoniker, New York Philharmonic, Orchestre de Paris, BBC Symphony Orchestra, and many others. This season sees the world premiere of Jörg Widmann's new trumpet concerto, commissioned by Gewandhausorchester Leipzig and Boston Symphony Orchestra for Håkan Hardenberger and conducted by Andris Nelsons.



Widmann's appointment as Daniel R. Lewis Young Composer Fellow at the Cleveland Orchestra established an extraordinary artistic collaboration with the orchestra and its Principal Conductor Franz Welser-Möst including the world premiere of Widmann's Flute Concerto, *Flûte en suite* in May 2011 followed by its European premiere in 2012/13 by the Berliner Philharmoniker and Emmanuel Pahud under Simon Rattle. Cleveland Orchestra featured *Flûte en suite* as centrepiece in their 2014 European tour, and dedicated an entire evening to Widmann's works at the Berliner Philharmonie. His opera *Babylon* was premiered in 2012/13 at Bayerische Staatsoper under the baton of Kent Nagano.

Am Anfang by Anselm Kiefer and Jörg Widmann was premiered in July 2009 as part of the 20th anniversary of the Opéra Bastille, in which Widmann acted as composer, clarinetist and made his debut as conductor.

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Curriculum vitae (long version)

Widmann was Artist in Residence at leading Festivals and Orchestras such as Lucerne Festival and Salzburger Festspiele, Bamberger Symphoniker, Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich's creative chair 2015/16, and both BOZAR and Elbphilharmonie's artist in residence in its opening season. He was featured in Artist Portraits at Vienna's Konzerthaus, Frankfurt's Alte Oper and Cologne's Philharmonie. In the 2017/18 season he was featured as the first ever Gewandhaus Composer in Leipzig's history.

Widmann is Fellow at the Wissenschaftskollegs in Berlin and a full member of the Bayerischen Akademie of Schönen Künste, and since 2007, the Freien Akademie der Künste Hamburg, the Deutschen Akademie der Darstellenden Künste and the Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur Mainz. He is professor for composition at the Barenboim-Said Academy, Berlin.



Jörg Widmann

Curriculum vitae
(short version)

Clarinetist, composer and conductor Jörg Widmann is one of the most versatile and intriguing artists of his generation. The 2017/18 season will see him appear as soloist with orchestras such as Wiener Philharmoniker under Valery Gergiev, Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra with Bertrand de Billy, Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra under Sylvain Cambreling, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra under Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla, SWR Symphonieorchester under Peter Rundel, and Orchester de Paris with Daniel Harding.

This season will also see Jörg Widmann and his work featured in various residencies and portraits. Jörg Widmann is the first Gewandhaus Composer and was commissioned by Gewandhaus Orchester and Boston Symphony Orchestra to compose a new work which will be premiered in Leipzig in March 2018 conducted by Andris Nelsons. At Gewandhaus, Jörg Widmann will be featured in a portrait concert as well as in various chamber concerts and as a soloist.

Further residencies include Orchestre de Paris, Wigmore Hall, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Mozartwoche Salzburg and Philharmonie Essen.

Chamber music performances in the 2017/18 season include a tour with the Hagen Quartet with performances of his new Clarinet Quintet in Paris, Lugano, Amsterdam, Essen, Berlin, London and Salzburg; trio recitals with Tabea Zimmermann and Dénes Várjon in Helsinki, Freiburg, at Kölner Philharmonie, Pierre Boulez Saal Berlin and Wigmore Hall, and recitals at San Francisco Performances, Toppan Hall and the premiere of a new piece written for him by Mark Andre at Wittener Tage für neue Kammermusik. Amongst his regular chamber music partners are renowned soloists such as Sir Andrés Schiff, Daniel Barenboim, Elisabeth Leonskaja and Mitsuko Uchida.

Continuing his intense activities as a conductor, Jörg Widmann will perform this season with the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunk, Budapest Festival Orchestra, Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin and as Principal Conductor with the Irish Chamber Orchestra with whom he will embark on a tour throughout Germany including concerts at International Music Festival Heidelberger Frühling, Philharmonie Essen, Mozartfest Würzburg and Leverkusen, followed by the premiere of his new violin concerto with Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra and Carolin Widmann at Suntory Hall.

In April 2018 Christian Gerhaher and Bamberger Symphoniker under Jakub Hrůša will premiere his song cycle *Das heiße Herz*.

Widmann gave the world premiere of Mark Andre's Clarinet Concerto über at the Donauerschinger Musiktage 2015. Other clarinet concerti dedicated to and written for him include Wolfgang Rihm's *Musik für Klarinette und Orchester* (1999) and Aribert Reimann's *Cantus* (2006).

Widmann is a Fellow at the Wissenschaftskollegs in Berlin and a full member of the Bayerischen Akademie of Schönen Künste, and since 2007, the Freien Akademie der Künste Hamburg, the Deutschen Akademie der Darstellenden Künste and the Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur Mainz. He is professor for composition at the Barenboim-Said Academy, Berlin.



Jörg Widmann

Curriculum vitae (chronological)

- 1973** Born in Munich on 19th June
- from 1984** Studies composition with Kay Westermann in Munich
- from 1986** Studies clarinet at the Munich Hochschule für Musik
- 1994-1995** Studies clarinet with Charles Neidich at the New York Juilliard School of Music
- 1994-1996** Studies composition with Hans Werner Henze and Wilfried Hiller in Munich
- 1996** Cultural Encouragement Award from the City of Munich
- 1997** Bavarian State Award for Young Artists
- 1997-1999** Studies composition with Heiner Goebbels and Wolfgang Rihm in Karlsruhe
- 1998** Belmont Prize for Contemporary Music, Forberg-Schneider Foundation
- 2001** Louis Spohr Medal, Seesen
- from 2001** Professor of clarinet at the Freiburg Hochschule für Musik
- 2002** Schneider-Schott Music Award, Mainz;
Hindemith Prize, Schleswig-Holstein
- 2003** Encouragement Award, Ernst-von-Siemens Music Foundation;
Honorary Award, Munich Opera Festival
Das Gesicht im Spiegel selected as the most important world premiere of the 2003/04 season by *Opernwelt magazine*
- 2004** Arnold Schoenberg Prize, Vienna Schoenberg Centre and the Berlin German Symphony Orchestra
- 2005** Full member of the Bavarian Academy of Fine Arts, Munich
- 2006** Composition Award, SWR Symphony Orchestra of Baden-Baden and Freiburg for "Zweites Labyrinth";
Claudio Abbado Composition Award, Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra Academy
- 2007** Music Award, Christoph and Stephan Kaske Foundation
- 2008** Residency in Dubai, supported by the Siemens Arts Program
- 2009** Elise L. Stoeger Prize of the Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society, New York
- 2010** Awarded with the Marsilius-medal of the Ruprecht-Karls-University, Heidelberg
- 2013** Music Prize of the "Heidelberger Frühling";
GEMA German Music Authors Award (Category: Symphonic Composition)
Premio una vita nella musica giovani (Category: Composition)
- 2014** Composer & Artist in Residence at Rheingau Musikfestival



Jörg Widmann

Curriculum vitae
(chronological)

- 2015** Featured Composer at Philharmonisches Staatsorchester Mainz
- 2016** Member of the Academy of Sciences and Literature Mainz
- 2017** Becomes principal conductor of the Irish Chamber Orchestra
Professor of Composition at the Barenboim-Said-Academy Berlin
- 2018** Robert Schumann Award for Music and Poetry of the Academy of
Sciences and Literature Mainz
Bayerischer Maximiliansorden für Wissenschaft und Kunst
- 2019** Richard and Barbara Debs Composer's Chair at Carnegie Hall
OPUS KLASSIK award as "Composer of the Year"
for the oratorio ARCHE
- 2021** Music Award of the City of Munich
Würth Prize of Jeunesses Musicales Germany