

Markus Groh

Consistently cited for his „sound imagination“ and astonishing power, Markus Groh has confirmed his place among the finest pianists in the world today. Sharing the same birthday with Alfred Brendel, Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli and Maurizio Pollini, he has proven himself worthy of their company. He has made stunning debuts with both the National Symphony in Washington, D.C. (Brahms Concerto No. 1 in D Minor) and the Cleveland Orchestra (Brahms Concerto No. 2 in B-Flat). In the words of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, „...**Groh proved exceptionally well-suited to the giant task of Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 2. Not for a second did Groh lose his cool. Instead, he devoured the piece with sparing gestures and the apparent ease of a complete virtuoso.**“

Mr. Groh has also appeared with the symphony orchestras of Baltimore, Colorado, Detroit, Florida, Fort Worth, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Louisville, Milwaukee, New Jersey, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Seattle, among others. Outside the U.S., engagements include the Auckland Philharmonia, Bamberg Symphony, Beijing Symphony, Berlin Symphony, Bournemouth Symphony, Budapest Festival Orchestra, Hague Residentie Orkest, Helsinki Philharmonic, London Symphony, Malmø Symphony, MDR Orchestra at the Leipzig Gewandhaus, New Japan Philharmonic, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Osaka Philharmonic, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, St. Petersburg Philharmonic, SWR Orchestra (Stuttgart), and the Warsaw Philharmonic.

Earlier seasons included highly successful debuts with the Cincinnati Symphony, Houston Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, and a collaboration with the Tokyo String Quartet at the 92nd Street Y in New York. Among the conductors with whom **Mr. Groh** has collaborated are Jesus Lopez Cobos, Andreas Delfs, Ivan Fischer, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Marek Janowski, Neeme Järvi, Fabio Luisi, Ludwig Morlot, Kent Nagano, Jonathan Nott, David Robertson, Kwame Ryan and Stefan Sanderling, to name a few.

A spellbinding recitalist, **Markus Groh** reveals shapes, textures and colors that one seldom hears in live performance. Critics agree: „Groh is a great pianist.“ [Toronto Star]; „...a superb recital.“ [New York Times]; „A new star in the pianistic firmament!“ [Neue Zürcher Zeitung]. Recently, **Mr. Groh** has appeared in recital at the Friends of Chamber Music Denver, Friends of Chamber Music Kansas City, Vancouver Recital Society, and at The Frick Collection in New York. Chamber music activities have included performances with Claudio Bohorquez, Julia Fischer, Maximilian Hornung, Daishin Kashimoto, Albrecht Mayer, Paul Meyer, Andreas Ottensamer, Boris Pergamenschikow, Heinrich Schiff, Akiko Suwanai, Radovan Vlatkovic and Tabea Zimmermann, with ensembles like the Alban Berg Quartet, the Artemis Quartet and the Kuss Quartet, as well as Lieder Recitals with the legendary Peter Schreier.

Widely acclaimed for his interpretations of Liszt, an all-Liszt CD (including the *Totentanz* and B Minor Sonata) was released by AVIE in 2006. Showered with rave reviews, it was also named "Editor's Choice" in *Gramophone Magazine*. An all-Brahms CD was released by AVIE in June of 2008. Other recordings include a CD of Debussy, Prokofiev, and Britten cello sonatas with Claudio Bohorquez on Berlin Classics and a CD of Liszt's *Totentanz* with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande conducted by Fabio Luisi on Cascavelle.

A frequent guest at international festivals such as Grant Park, Festival Cultural de Mayo (Mexico), La Folle Journée, Ruhr, Ludwigsburg, Bad Kissingen, and

Schubertiade (Austria), **Mr. Groh** is the founder and artistic director of the Bebersee Festival near Berlin. He has appeared frequently on radio and television in Germany, Spain, Belgium, Holland, France, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Japan (NHK), Mexico and the United States (NPR).

Markus Groh was born on the 5th of January 1970 in southern Germany. He was a student of Professor Konrad Richter in Stuttgart and Professor Hans Leygraf in Berlin and Salzburg. He gained immediate world attention after winning First Prize at the prestigious Queen Elisabeth International Competition in Brussels in 1995, the first German to do so.

Profile English – short

Markus Groh

Within a little more than a decade German born pianist Markus Groh has established himself as one of the most versatile pianists of his generation after having won the 1st prize in the prestigious Queen Elisabeth Competition Brussels in Belgium 1995. His worldwide concert activities include performances with the London Symphony, the Cleveland Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the National Symphony Washington D.C., the San Francisco Symphony, the New Japan Philharmonic and the St. Petersburg Philharmonic under such distinguished conductors as Ivan Fischer, Neeme Jaervi, Fabio Luisi, Kent Nagano, Jonathan Nott or David Robertson. Markus Groh performs solo recitals all over the world in some of the most important venues of cities like Amsterdam, Athens, Berlin, Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Munich, New York, Tokyo, Toronto, Vancouver, Vienna, Washington D.C. and Zurich. His first SACD Solo recording featured the b minor Sonata, the Fantasy and Fugue on B-A-C-H and the "Totentanz" of Franz Liszt and received outstanding reviews in major newspapers (The Times, FAZ among others) as well as in major music magazines including critic's awards like "Editor's Choice" (Gramophone Magazine, U.K.), "Recording of the month" (Musicweb International, USA), "Supersonic Award" (Pizzicato, Luxemburg), "6 of 6 points" (Piano News, Germany). A second all-Brahms SACD was showered with rave reviews as well. It received awards like the „Star of the Month“ of the most important German Music Magazine FonoForum.

Mr. Groh lives in Berlin and New York.