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Photo: Felix Broede

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The pianist Herbert Schuch has gained a reputation as being among the most interesting musicians of his generation with his strikingly conceived concert programmes and CD recordings. In 2013, he received the ECHO Klassik award for his recording of the piano concerto by Viktor Ullmann and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 with the WDR Sinfonieorchester conducted by Olari Elts. In 2014, he issued the fascinating solo CD "invocation" with works by Bach, Liszt, Messiaen, Murail and Ravel,

which engages with the sound of bells. He could be heard with this programme in piano recitals at the Salzburg Festival and the Stuttgart Musikfest, and in the Frauenkirche in Dresden and the Philharmonie in Berlin, among other venues. A piano-duet CD with Gülru Ensari, featuring works by Brahms, Hindemith, Stravinsky and Özkan Manav, was issued in early 2017.

Herbert Schuch has worked with a number of renowned orchestras, including the London

Philharmonic Orchestra, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the NHK Symphony Orchestra, Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra under Valery Gergiev, the Residentie Orkest Den Haag, the RAI National Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana, the Munich Philharmonic Orchestra, the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, the Bamberg Symphony, the Dresden Philharmonic and the radio orchestras of hr, MDR, WDR, NDR Hannover and Danish Radio as well as the Camerata Salzburg and the Festival Strings Lucerne. He appears regularly as guest at important venues and festivals such as the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, the Philharmonie Cologne, the Salzburg Festival, the Festival Radio France Occitanie, the Ruhr Piano Festival, the Rheingau Music Festival, the Kissinger Sommer and the Schumann Festival Düsseldorf. Among the conductors with whom he has enjoyed successful associations are Pierre Boulez, Andrey Boreyko, Douglas Boyd, Lawrence Foster, Eivind Gullberg Jensen, Jakub Hrusa, Jun Märkl, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Jonathan Nott, Markus Poschner, Michael Sanderling and Alexander Vedernikov.

Highlights of the 2018/19 season are a South American tour with the Dresden Philharmonic (Sanderling), performances and recordings of all Beethoven's piano concertos in the Grosses Festspielhaus in Salzburg with the Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg, and concerts with the Orchestre National de Belgique (Shelley), the Philharmonic State Orchestra Hamburg (Nagano), the WDR Sinfonieorchester (Saraste), the Deutsche Radio Philharmonie (Venzago), the State Philharmonic of Rhineland-Palatinate and in the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, the Konzerthaus Berlin and at the Schumannfest Düsseldorf.

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Herbert Schuch was born in Timișoara, Romania, in 1979. He had his first piano lessons in his native city, before his family moved to Germany in 1988, where he has lived since. He continued his musical studies with Kurt Hantsch and then with Prof. Karl-Heinz Kämmerling at the Mozarteum in Salzburg. Recently, Herbert Schuch has been especially influenced by his encounters and work with Alfred Brendel. He created an international stir when he won three major competitions in just one year: the Casagrande Competition, the London International Piano Competition

and the International Beethoven Competition in Vienna.

Herbert Schuch, who as a child himself played violin for 10 years, shares his passion for chamber music on the stage with musicians such as Nicolas Altstaedt, Julia Fischer, Maximilian Hornung, Sebastian Manz and Daniel Müller-Schott.

In addition to his performance activities, Herbert Schuch is also involved in the organization “Rhapsody in School,” founded by Lars Vogt, which promotes classical music education in schools.

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