



alban gerhardt cello

Having launched his career with the Berliner Philharmoniker and Semyon Bychkov in 1991, Alban Gerhardt has since gained recognition as one of the most versatile cellists, highly regarded for his performances, from solo Bach through the classical and romantic canon to collaborations with several contemporary composers.

Alban Gerhardt has, for nearly thirty years, made a unique impact on audiences worldwide with his intense musicality, compelling stage presence and insatiable artistic curiosity. His gift for shedding fresh light on familiar scores, along with his appetite for investigating new repertoire from centuries past and present, truly set him apart from his peers.

Having recently premiered a new cello concerto by Brett Dean with Sydney Symphony and Berliner Philharmoniker, Alban Gerhardt gives the first US performance with Minnesota Orchestra and Osmo Vänskä. Other symphonic engagements in North America include concerts with the New York Philharmonic and Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra as well as the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal. The upcoming season takes Gerhardt to Asia on several occasions, to perform with Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra, The Macao Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra of Taiwan and Hong Kong Sinfonietta. In Europe he premieres a new chamber concerto by Julian Anderson in Paris with the Orchestre National de France and performs with Swedish Radio, London Philharmonic Orchestra and City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra.

Gerhardt has won several awards, and his recording of Unsuk Chin's Cello Concerto, released by Deutsche Grammophon, won the BBC Music Magazine Award and was shortlisted for a Gramophone Award in 2015. Gerhardt has recorded extensively for Hyperion, his latest recording of complete Bach suites was released in 2019.

He is a keen chamber musician; his regular performance partners include Steven Osborne and Cecile Licad. Most recently he has collaborated on a new artistic project 'Love in Fragments' with violinist Gergana Gergova, choreographer Sommer Ulrickson, and sculptor Alexander Polzin. A poetic union of music, movement, sculpture and the spoken word, the project successfully premiered last season at 92nd St Y in New York and will be repeated in Lyon in Spring 2020.

Gerhardt is passionate about sharing his discoveries with audiences far beyond the traditional concert hall: outreach projects undertaken in Europe and the US have involved performances and workshops, not only in schools and hospitals, but also pioneering sessions in public spaces and young offender institutions.

His collaboration with Deutsche Bahn, involving live performances on the main commuter routes in Germany, vividly demonstrates his commitment to challenging traditional expectations of classical music. In early 2017, Gerhardt founded #Musicians4UnitedEurope (www.musicians4unitedeurope.com), a group of international musicians working together to voice their support for a united and democratic Europe.

Alban Gerhardt plays a Matteo Gofriller cello dating from 1710.

2019/20 Season

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