



## **nils mönkemeyer viola**

Artistic brilliance and innovative programming are the trademarks that have earned Nils Mönkemeyer a reputation as one of the world's most successful violists, dramatically raising the profile of his instrument.

Under his exclusive contract with Sony Classical, Mönkemeyer has released numerous CDs over the past years, all of which have won critical acclaim and prestigious awards. His programmes run the gamut from rediscoveries and first recordings of original 18th-century viola literature, to contemporary repertoire and arrangements of his own. The two most recently released CDs are recordings of Walton, Bruch and Pärt with the Bamberg Symphony under the direction of Markus Poschner, and the chamber music album "Baroque", in which Nils Mönkemeyer unveils a fascinating panorama of Bach and contemporaneous French music.

Nils Mönkemeyer works together with conductors such as Andrej Boreyko, Sylvain Cambreling, Elias Grandy, Christopher Hogwood, Cornelius Meister, Mark Minkowski, Kent Nagano, Michael Sanderling, Clemens Schuldt, Karl-Heinz Steffens, Markus Stenz, Mario Venzago and Simone Young, performing as a soloist with ensembles including Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra, Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra, Les Musiciens du Louvre, Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, Berne Symphony Orchestra, Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, the Konzerthausorchester Berlin, Dresden Philharmonic, Hamburg Philharmonic, Frankfurter Opern- und Museumsorchester, MDR Leipzig Radio Symphony Orchestra, NDR Radiophilharmonie, Weimar Staatskapelle, Dusseldorf Symphony Orchestra, Lausanne Chamber Orchestra and Berliner Barock Solisten.

Furthermore, he is pursuing a heartfelt wish as a musician to build bridges with music by making it accessible to the disadvantaged. To this end, Nils Mönkemeyer founded the chamber music festival "Klassik für Alle" in 2016, in collaboration with the charity Caritas Bonn.

In the 2020/21 season, Nils Mönkemeyer will be Artist in Residence at two renowned festivals: in May 2021 at the Schwetzingen Festival with programmes of his own devising, and in summer 2021 at the Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, where he will appear in numerous orchestral and chamber music concerts as Laureate in Residence. Furthermore, he can be heard performing with the Tonhalle Orchestra and Philharmonia Zurich, the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, the SWR Symphonieorchester, the Deutsche Radio Philharmonie, the NDR Radiophilharmonie and Munich Chamber Orchestra, in venues such as Vienna Musikverein, Zurich Tonhalle, Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Berlin Konzerthaus and Boulez Saal, Cologne Philharmonie, Tokyo's Toppan Hall, as well in prestigious festivals. Further highlights of the season are a tour with Berlin Baroque Soloists, his Trio with Sabine Meyer and William Youn, and concerts with the Julia Fischer Quartet.

Mönkemeyer has been a professor at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Munich since 2011 - the same institution at which he himself studied with Hariolf Schlichtig. Previous tenures include a two-year professorship at the Carl Maria von Weber University of Music in Dresden, and an assistant professorship at the Reina Sofia College of Music in Madrid.

Nils Mönkemeyer plays a viola made by Philipp Augustin.

### **2020/21 Season**

Please only use the most up-to-date biography. Any alterations must first be cleared with **f r e i t a g a r t i s t s**.