

ALEXANDER JANICZEK

Violin / Director



"truly astounding... a blistering performance..."

The Herald

"... his performance touched the magnificent."

The Scotsman

"...Janiczek proved an ideal soloist ... spellbinding."

The Guardian

BIOGRAPHY

Alexander Janiczek, highly sought after as a director, soloist, guest leader and chamber musician, was born in Salzburg to a musical family of Polish and Czech descent. He studied with Helmuth Zehetmair at the Mozarteum and also in masterclasses with Max Rostal, Nathan Milstein, Ruggiero Ricci and Dorothy Delay.

Alexander established his name as a concert violinist at the age of nine when he won first prize in the National Competition of Austria. From the age of twenty he developed a close association with Sándor Végh and the Camerata Salzburg. This led to tours across Europe and the Americas as leader, director and soloist and in recordings – playing Sándor Végh's famous Paganini Stradivarius.

In December 2011 Alexander was appointed Associate Artist with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, a new post that continues an already close creative partnership. He has been director and soloist on tours throughout Scotland and Europe, and directed them on their USA tour in 2010. This season he also appears as concerto soloist under principal conductor Robin Ticciati. He directs the Orchestra in the highly acclaimed series of Mozart Serenades for Linn Records, Gramophone label of the year 2010, and for release in 2012 will be a CD of Weber wind concerti featuring soloists from the Orchestra.

He continues to direct Camerata Salzburg in a close collaboration. This year he directs Camerata in its annual New Year's Day concert, an Easter concert and in 2 special concerts at the Salzburg Festival to celebrate the centenary of the birth of Sándor Végh, along with tours to Mexico and across Europe.

He was a guest director with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, with whom he toured extensively for many years throughout Europe and the Far East. He directed the orchestra in many European tours, including those with Mitsuko Uchida. A CD of Alexander directing the COE in Stravinsky's Apollon musagète and Pulcinella Suite was released to great acclaim on the Linn Records label.

He is a guest director with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields appearing this season in concerts with Imogen Cooper; a tour to mark the 50th birthday of Hakan Hardenberger; a European tour with Murray Perahia and will also a US tour with the ASMF Chamber Ensemble.

He also directs Camerata Bern, recently with Heinz Holliger and Christian Gerhaher, and returned this season in a production with Bern Ballet. He appears as director with other orchestras such as the Hamburger Camerata, Orchestra I Pomeriggi Musicali of Milan, the Orchestra di Padova e del Veneto, the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra and the Swedish Chamber Orchestra.

Alexander has appeared as guest leader for special projects with orchestras such as: Budapest Festival, City of Birmingham Symphony, London Philharmonic, London Symphony and Royal Concertgebouw Orchestras and the Bavarian Radio Orchestra, SWR Radio Sinfonieorchester Stuttgart and Bavarian State Opera, Munich.

He is also committed to exploring 19th-century performance practice and has worked with Robert Levin, Ton Koopmann, Philippe Herreweghe, Andrea Marcon and appeared at the Saintes Festival. Alexander has appeared with artists such as Piotr Anderszewski, Yuri Bashmet, Jiri Belohlávek, Olari Elts, Thierry Fischer, Manfred Honeck, Neeme Järvi, Ton Koopman, Oliver Knussen, Emmanuel Krivine, Alexandrr Longquich, Antonello Manacorda, Sir Roger Norrington, Murray Perahia, Matthias

Pintscher and Joseph Swensen. Alexander's current concerto engagements include Beethoven, Berg's Concerto and Chamber Concerto, HK Gruber, Mozart, Hartmann, Spohr and Brahms' Double Concerto (with Miklós Perényi).

As a dedicated chamber musician, he was invited by Mitsuko Uchida and Richard Goode to the Marlboro Music Festival and has appeared with artists such as Thomas Adés, Stefan Arnold, Yuri Bashmet, Joshua Bell, Till Fellner, Steven Isserlis, Boris Pergamenschikow, Dénes Várjon, David Watkin, Jörg Widmann, Liÿr Williams and Christian Zacharias. He performed Kurtag's Kafka Fragmente to great acclaim with Elisabeth Watts. He has performed with the Hebrides Ensemble and can be heard on their recent acclaimed Messiaen cd for Linn Records. His chamber music with Liÿr Williams includes the Mendelssohn Trios and the complete Beethoven and Brahms sonatas - the duo made their Wigmore Hall debut in 2011.

Alexander has also formed, through close musical partnership with artists who perform with a similar musical aesthetic, his own chamber ensemble, **Camerata Janiczek**, which has already been invited to perform in Europe and will perform a cycle of Mozart quintets on period instruments at Festivo Aschau im Chiemgau.

Alexander is also a Professor of Violin at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, and often works with students in masterclasses and directing your orchestras such as the National Youth Orchestras of Scotland and the Jeune Orchestre Atlantique in France.

Alexander Janiczek plays the ex-'Sorkin' Giuseppe Guarneri, del Gesù, Cremona 1731, which is on loan to him from the National Bank of Austria.

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