



Marie-Luise Neunecker | Biography Horn



"Her technical mastery on this delicate instrument is so great that she can give free rein to her strong musicality. Her playing has drive and the demanding solo part, characterized by many intermittent jumps, came so easily through the tight windings of her horn, as though she was singing us a song."

Hailed for her exceptional talent and virtuosity, she is widely regarded as one of the leading and most distinguished horn players of today. She has built a successful international career and is much in demand as soloist and chamber musician.

During her tenure as principal horn of the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra and the Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra from 1979 to 1989, she attracted attention as prize winner at several prestigious international competitions such as the *German Music Competition* in Bonn (1982), the *ARD competition* in Munich (1983) and the *Concert Artists' Guild Competition* in New York (1986). Today, she is invited to the world's most renowned concert venues. In 2013, Marie-Luise Neunecker was awarded the *Frankfurt Music Prize*.

Besides being a successful soloist with ensembles such as the radio symphony orchestras of the NDR, SWR, MDR, hr, the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, Vienna Philharmonic as well as the Bamberg Symphony, Marie-Luise Neunecker also appears regularly as a chamber musician. She regularly works with partners such as Christian Tetzlaff, Lars Vogt, Antje Weithaas, András Schiff, Martha Argerich and Pierre-Laurent Aimard, as well as with the Zehetmair Quartet.

She frequently appears as guest chamber musician and soloist at the most important festivals such as the Salzburg Festival, the Aldeburgh Festival, the Rheingau Musik Festival, the Marlboro Music Festival, the Risør Festival as well as at the Wiener Festwochen.

György Ligeti wrote his *Hamburg Concerto* for Marie-Luise Neunecker, who performed its world premiere in January 2001. Since then, she has played it numerous times in several countries – most recently with the Aurora Orchestra in London. She has released it on CD with the Asko Ensemble under the direction of Reinbert de Leeuw for the Ligeti Edition of Warner Classics.

Her numerous recordings, awarded with prizes such as the ECHO Klassik and a Grammy Award nomination, have not only demonstrated her outstanding quality as an artist and her exceptional musical versatility, they have also contributed to a wider knowledge of horn repertory of various epochs. She released the Strauss Concertos with the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Ingo Metzmacher and Britten's Horn Serenade with tenor Ian Bostridge. Other recordings include the Hindemith concerto, and horn concertos by Russian composers Reinhold Glière, Alexander Glazunov and Vissarion Shebalin. As a chamber musician she has released recordings of the horn trios by Brahms with Frank Peter Zimmermann and Wolfgang Sawallisch, a recording with works from Othmar Schoeck, Charles Koechlin and Ethel Smyth and most recently, a recording with works by Hindemith, Kirchner, Brahms, Beethoven and Schumann with Lars Vogt at the piano.

Marie-Luise Neunecker was Professor of Horn at the Hanns Eisler Academy of Music in Berlin for a long time and travels all over the world to give masterclasses.