

Martin Stadtfeld | Biography

Piano



"Under the hands of the pianist, who has long since played himself into the upper league of his instrument, each piece becomes a deeply moving character piece in which the essence of the music combines with that of the performer to produce new insights."

By the age of seven, his professional aspirations were already clear: to be a concert pianist. Early on, Martin Stadtfeld studied the rules and secrets of counterpoint and harmony, then entered as a young student into the class of Lev Natochenny in Frankfurt, and won first competitions, among other at the Busoni Competition Bozen. The sensational victory at the Leipzig Bach Competition in 2002 became the starting point of a career that has taken Martin Stadtfeld to the most important festivals and the major concert halls and orchestras.

Recitals with the music of Bach, the sonatas of Beethoven, German Romanticism and orchestral invitations with the piano concertos of Mozart to Rachmaninov have taken Martin Stadtfeld all over the world in the last two decades.

During this time, he has recorded 26 CDs for Sony Classical, which are award-winning and acclaimed by international critics. Again and again, the music of Johann Sebastian Bach is the cornerstone of this impressive discography. Recordings of the *Goldberg Variations*, the *Well-Tempered Clavier*, the music of the young Bach are made. At the same time, this intense preoccupation points the way to recordings of Chopin's *Etudes*, works by Mozart and Beethoven, and German Romanticism, bathing this music in a new light.

Almost inevitably, this courage for personal interpretation also leads to original compositions and free arrangements. *Händel Variations*, *Piano Songbook*, *Homage to Bach*, *Deutsche Volkslieder*, *Genesis*, *Baroque Colours* are titles that make Martin Stadtfeld's very personal involvement with music come alive. Available on CD, as a stream, but also as music books, these are published with great success by Schott Music.

Martin Stadtfeld has also been committed to music education for many years: Countless visits to schools, concerts for children and young people, CD radio plays designed to make it easier for children and adults to enter the world of classical music bear witness to this.

Martin Stadtfeld will now put his broad experience to good use as a professor of piano: He has been appointed to the University of the Arts in Bremen starting in fall 2023.