Benjamin Schmid

Violin

Viennese-born violinist Benjamin Schmid has a wide-ranging repertoire, specialising in the works of Austrian composers including Berg, Goldmark, Korngold, Kreisler, Muthspiel, Schoenberg and Webern. With pianist Ariane Haering, he has also focused on Mozart, and they have edited several sonatas and previously unpublished fragments for G. Henle Verlag. He also has a successful career in jazz and regularly presents his *Hommage à Grappelli* programme at jazz venues and classical concert halls alike.

Highlights of the 2019/20 season include appearances with the Indianapolis and Winnipeg Symphony orchestras, Oklahoma City Philharmonic, MDR Sinfonieorchester Leipzig and Orquestra Simfònica del Vallès, and he returns to the Brucknerhaus Linz with his Benjamin Schmid Jazz Quartet.

He has a close relationship with the Wiener Philharmoniker and their notable collaborations include the opening concert of the Salzburger Festspiele as well as a performances at Vienna Musikverein and, in 2011, at Schloss Schönbrunn with the Paganini-Kreisler Concerto under the baton of Valery Gergiev, which was broadcast in over 60 countries and released on CD and DVD by Deutsche Grammophon.

In Asia, he has appeared with the New Japan Philharmonic, Singapore Symphony and at the Hong Kong Festival among others. He is also a frequent guest at the major European chamber music festivals.

Benjamin Schmid has a discography of over 40 albums, which have won critical acclaim and awards including the ECHO Klassik, Gramophone Editor’s Choice and Strad Selection. His recording of Ligeti’s Violin Concerto was named Record of the Month by *Gramophone* magazine, and his album of Wolf-Ferrari’s Violin Concerto was nominated for the Vierteljahrespreis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik.

Benjamin Schmid won the Carl Flesch International Competition in 1992, where he also received the Mozart, Beethoven and Audience prizes. He holds a professorship at the Mozarteum Salzburg and teaches masterclasses at Hochschule der Künste Bern. He was a member of the jury at the 2017 ARD International Music Competition for violin, and Chairman of the Jury at the 2019 International Leopold Mozart Violin Competition.

Benjamin Schmid plays the “ex-Viotti” Stradivarius of 1718, provided to him by the Österreichische Nationalbank.

Regular collaborations include with conductors such as Seiji Ozawa, Christoph von Dohnányi, Riccardo Chailly, Yuri Temirkanov, John Storgårds and Hannu Lintu, and with orchestras including the Australian Chamber Orchestra, the Philharmonia, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich, St Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Concerto Köln.

US engagaments have included with the Baltimore and Houston Symphony orchestras, Washington National Symphony Orchestra, Naples Philharmonic and Naples Philharmonic Jazz Orchestra and Curtis Institute orchestras.

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