Alban Gerhardt

Cello

Having launched his career with the Berliner Philharmoniker and Semyon Bychkov in 1991, Alban Gerhardt has since gained recognition as one of the most versatile cellists, highly regarded for his performances, from solo Bach through the classical and romantic canon to collaborations with several contemporary composers.

Alban Gerhardt has, for nearly thirty years, made a unique impact on audiences worldwide with his intense musicality, compelling stage presence and insatiable artistic curiosity. His gift for shedding fresh light on familiar scores, along with his appetite for investigating new repertoire from centuries past and present, truly set him apart from his peers.

Gerhardt recently premiered a new cello concerto by Julian Anderson with Orchestre National du France, following on from the success of his performances of Brett Dean’s concerto premiered with Sydney Symphony and Berliner Philharmoniker and played with Minnesota Orchestra, New York Philharmonic and Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra last season. This upcoming season Alban Gerhardt gives further performances of the concerto with Boston Symphony Orchestra and Klaus Mäkelä. Baltimore Symphony Orchestra/Alsop, Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra/Oramo and London Philharmonic Orchestra/Gardner. Other symphonic engagements in Europe include concerts with Swedish Chamber Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Orchestre Chambre de Lausanne and Deutsches Sinfonie Orchester Berlin.

Gerhardt has won several awards, and his recording of Unsuk Chin’s Cello Concerto, released by Deutsche Grammophon, won the BBC Music Magazine Award and was shortlisted for a Gramophone Award in 2015. Gerhardt has recorded extensively for Hyperion; his recording of complete Bach suites was released in 2019 and was one of the Sunday Times top 100 CDs of the year (all genres included).

He is a keen chamber musician; his regular performance partners include Steven Osborne and Cecile Licad. Most recently he has collaborated on a new artistic project ’Love in Fragments’ with violinist Gergana Gergova, choreographer Sommer Ulrickson, and sculptor Alexander Polzin. A poetic union of music, movement, sculpture and the spoken word, the project successfully premiered at 92nd St Y in New York.

Gerhardt is passionate about sharing his discoveries with audiences far beyond the traditional concert hall: outreach projects undertaken in Europe and the US have involved performances and workshops, not only in schools and hospitals, but also pioneering sessions in public spaces and young offender institutions.

Alban Gerhardt plays a Matteo Gofriller cello dating from 1710.

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