



HARRISON PARROTT

Víkingur Ólafsson Piano

Pianist Víkingur Ólafsson's remarkable originality and powerful musical conviction have seen him, in just a few years, take the music world by storm to become one of the most sought-after artists of today. He made an unforgettable impact with the release of his three albums, *Philip Glass Piano Works (2017)*, *Johann Sebastian Bach (2018)* and *Debussy Rameau (2020)* on Deutsche Grammophon, for whom he is an exclusive recording artist. *Debussy Rameau* has already surpassed 21 million streams, bringing Ólafsson's total streams to over 125 million and leading the Daily Telegraph to call him "The new superstar of classical piano."

Ólafsson's multiple awards include the Opus Klassik Solo Recording Instrumental (piano) for two consecutive years (2019, 2020), Album of the Year at the BBC Music Magazine Awards 2019 and Gramophone magazine's 2019 Artist of the Year. The *New York Times* meanwhile dubbed him "Iceland's Glenn Gould."

Ólafsson appears as artist in residence at some of the world's top concert halls, beginning with Konzerthaus Berlin and followed by Brussel's Flagey and London's Southbank Centre. He performs this season with Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra and Edward Gardner; Cleveland Orchestra and Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia - both with John Adams; San Francisco Symphony and Han-Na Chang; New York Philharmonic and Semyon Bychkov; Camerata Salzburg and Andrew Manze; and Los Angeles Philharmonic with Gustavo Dudamel. Ólafsson also continues a major international recital tour of his *Debussy · Rameau* album.

With his captivating natural ability to communicate both on and off stage, Ólafsson is the driver behind a number of original projects. In 2020 alone he has: broadcast an eight-part series on Icelandic radio; presented his own primetime television series in Iceland called *Music Bites*; and created his own three part series on BBC Radio 3, *Transcribe, Transform*. Ólafsson was also artist in residence for three months during lockdown on BBC Radio 4's flagship arts programme, *Front Row*, broadcasting live, weekly performances from an empty Harpa concert hall in Reykjavík, reaching millions of listeners around the world. Ólafsson has been artistic director of Vinterfest and Reykjavík Midsummer Music (which he founded), and created his own record label.

Debussy · Rameau Reflections, Ólafsson's next album on Deutsche Grammophon, will be released in March 2021.