

Marc-André Hamelin – Piano



Marc-André Hamelin is ranked among the elite of world pianists for his unrivaled blend of musicianship and virtuosity in the great works of the established repertoire, as well as for his intrepid exploration of the neglected music of the 19th and 20th centuries.

He began the 2016/17 season with summer festival appearances at the Schubertiade, Verbier, Lofoton, Salzburg, and recitals at Tanglewood, Domaine Forget, Aspen, and La Jolla, where the La Jolla Music Society commissioned Hamelin to write a piano/cello sonata for himself and cellist Hai-Ye Ni.

Mr. Hamelin's orchestral engagements this season include weeks with the Montreal and Minnesota orchestras; the Indianapolis Symphony; the Bayerische Staatsorchester with Kirill Petrenko; the NDR Hanover, and the symphony orchestras in Gothenburg, Oregon, Bologna, Montpellier, and the Warsaw Philharmonic. Recitals include the Vienna Konzerthaus, Berlin Philharmonic, The Gilmore Festival, the 92nd St Y in New York, and in Cleveland, Chicago, Toronto in concerti of Haydn, Mozart, Ravel, Shostakovich, Brahms, and Rachmaninoff. Of particular pleasure to Mr. Hamelin is the opportunity to make his debut in China this season, with two recitals in the legendary Shanghai Concert Hall in November.

A special project for the season will be duo recitals with Leif Ove Andsnes in Europe at Wigmore Hall in London, Rotterdam, Dublin, and Italy; and in North America for the Seattle Symphony, San Francisco Performances, Washington Performing Arts, The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts in Beverly Hills, Chicago Symphony Presents, and Carnegie Hall.

With the Pacifica Quartet, he will tour the world premiere of his own piano quintet, commissioned by the Segerstrom Center in Orange County, CA, and concludes the season as a juror at the Cliburn Piano Competition, for which he has been commissioned to write the compulsory solo work for the contestants.

Mr. Hamelin records exclusively for Hyperion Records. His most recent releases are the Shostakovich Piano Quintet with the Takács Quartet and a solo disc of Mozart sonatas. He was honored with the 2014 ECHO Klassik Instrumentalist of Year (Piano) and Disc of the Year by Diapason Magazine and Classica Magazine for his three disc set of Busoni: Late Piano Music.

Other recent recordings include Debussy Images and Préludes Book II, Haydn concertos with Les Violons du Roy and Bernard Labadie, three double-disc sets of Haydn sonatas; and an album of his own compositions, Hamelin: Études, which received a 2010 Grammy nomination (his ninth) and a first prize from the German Record Critics' Association. The Hamelin études are published by Edition Peters.

His Hyperion discography of over 50 recordings includes concertos and works for solo piano by such composers as Alkan, Godowsky, and Medtner, as well as brilliantly received performances of Brahms, Chopin, Liszt, Schumann and Shostakovich.

Mr. Hamelin makes his home in the Boston area with his wife, Cathy Fuller. Born in Montreal, Marc-André Hamelin is the recipient of a lifetime achievement award from the German Record Critic's Association. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada, a Chevalier de l'Ordre du Québec, and a member of the Royal Society of Canada.