

ANDREAS KLEIN

(Pianist)

“A fascinating artist with all the indispensable qualities: temperament, taste, touch, tone, the four Ts of pianism...”

—The New York Times

Biography

Andreas Klein is widely admired as a pianist of rare sensitivity and musicality. The Washington Post has praised his “articulate and flowing pianism” while the New York Times called him “a pianist who makes silences sound like music.” About a recent Glenn Gould tribute (with the Minguet String Quartet), the Calgary Herald reported, “(Klein brings) to his performance a mature understanding...as well as a brilliant execution”, while Classical Voice of North Carolina (CVNC) was even more blunt : “Andreas Klein is a stupendous pianist...a stunning performance by any standard, and it brought the audience to its feet in a rousing ovation.”

He has performed in many of the leading houses of Europe, from Wigmore Hall in London to the Berlin Philharmonie, as well as Carnegie Hall in New York and the Kennedy Center in Washington DC, and is at home with the grandeur of playing with the Berlin Philharmonic or the vast reaches of the Ravinia Festival (where he received two standing ovations) as he is with the intimacy of Le Poisson Rouge (NYC). He has extensively toured North America, with ensembles including the Salzburg Chamber Soloists (a 20-city tour) and the Festival Strings of Lucerne (10 cities) and in South America, where he performed Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 4 in Peru, Chile, Argentina, Colombia, and Brazil. Some exotic places on his concert tours included Damascus and Yerevan.

Since his meteoric start in his native Germany, performing recitals and as soloist with orchestra, he eventually answered the call to go to the Juilliard School in New York. But the highly focussed and musical approach to every work he performs was nurtured by one of his early teachers, the great Claudio Arrau. It is a philosophy Klein is credited with continuing.

In recent years Klein has added more forays into chamber music alongside his concerto and recital repertoire, including major projects with the Minetti Quartet and the Casals Quartet (Schumann's Piano Quintet - US tour and Casals Festival, Puerto Rico). These collaborations have taken him to important venues such as Philadelphia's Kimmel Center, Spivey Hall near Atlanta and the Wortham Center in Houston.

A frequent broadcaster, Klein has often appeared on WGBH Boston, WFMT Chicago, APR in ST Paul and KUHF in Houston. He was the subject of a "Musician Portrait" in Germany and his "Intermezzo with Andreas Klein" was televised by PBS. His recordings, "Piano Sonatas" and his album of music by Beethoven and Berg, have won admiring reviews (he is also an admired recording producer). And his self-composed new cadenzas for Mozart piano concertos have also won widespread praise. "Whatever the composer, whatever the project," he says, "for me it is about being inside the music."

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