

BIOGRAPHY



BARNABÁS KELEMEN, VIOLIN

One of his defining qualities is the extraordinarily vocalised style of his playing: phrases become utterances, with every detail reverently observed. And while virtuosity alone may not astonish audiences any more, his attention to detail and innate musicality certainly does.
The Guardian

An artist of 'innate musicality' with a technical execution that belongs 'only to the greatest' (The Guardian), Hungarian violinist Barnabás Kelemen has already captured the attention of the music world. With a repertoire that spans from classical to contemporary music, he has performed the Hungarian premieres of the Ligeti and Schnittke Violin Concertos as well as the Hungarian premiere and world premiere of violin works by Gubaidulina and Kurtag respectively.

In addition to appearances with all the major orchestras in Hungary, Barnabás Kelemen has collaborated with the Royal Liverpool, Helsinki, Munich, and Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestras, as well as Mozarteum Salzburg, Belgian National, Lahti Symphony and Rundfunk Sinfonieorchester Berlin. He has performed with such esteemed conductors as Lorin Maazel, Sir Neville Marriner, Marek Janowski, Peter Eötvös, Robert Spano, Zoltán Kocsis and Ivan Fischer. As a chamber musician he has performed with Zoltán Kocsis, Miklós Perényi and Shai Wosner amongst others, with recitals in the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Wigmore Hall and Carnegie Hall.

Future highlights include his debut with the London Philharmonic under the baton of Vladimir Jurowski, and performances with orchestras such as Malaysian Philharmonic with Christian Arming, Hong Kong Philharmonic with Masaaki Suzuki, Netherlands Philharmonic with Claus Peter Flohr, Helsinki Philharmonic with Dmitri Solbodiouk and a tour with the Budapest Festival Orchestra to be conducted by Ivan Fischer. In addition, there will be recitals and chamber music throughout Europe with recital partners Zoltan Kocsis and Shai Wosner. Barnabás Kelemen will also take the position of Artist in Residence at the Musis Sacrum in Arnhem for the 2010-11 season.

Barnabás Kelemen's varied discography has been received to critical acclaim with his recording of Brahms's Sonatas for Violin and Piano winning a Diapason d'Or. Similarly his recording of Liszt's complete works for Violin and Piano was awarded the Grand Prix du Disque 2001 by the International Liszt Society. Among his more recent recordings are a live DVD of the complete Mozart Violin Concerti and CDs of Bartók's Violin Concerto No 1 and Solo Sonata.

Born in Budapest in 1978, Barnabás Kelemen entered the Franz Liszt Music Academy at the age of 11 and later went on to become Third Prize Winner of the 2001 Queen Elizabeth Competition in Brussels and took First Prize at the International Violin Competition Indianapolis in 2002. In recognition of his achievements the Hungarian Government awarded him the Sándor Vegh Prize 2001, the Franz Liszt Prize 2003 and the Rózsavölgyi Prize 2003. Since 2005 he has been a professor at the Franz Liszt Music Academy Budapest and a guest professor at the Bloomington Indiana University.

He performs on a Guarneri del Gesù violin of 1742 (ex Dénes Kovács), generously on loan from the State of Hungary.

Season 2009/10

Please contact Konzertdirektion Hörtnagel if you wish to edit this biography. 2009/10 season only.

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