

Antje Weithaas, Violin

Biography

Antje Weithaas is one of the great violinists of our time. FonoForum

Brimful of energy, Antje Weithaas' brings her compelling musical intelligence and technical mastery to every detail of the music. Her charisma and stage presence are captivating, but never overshadow the works themselves. She has a wide-ranging repertoire that includes the great concertos by Mozart, Beethoven and Schumann, new works such as Jörg Widmann's Violin Concerto, modern classics by Shostakovich, Prokofiev, Ligeti and Gubaidulina, and lesser performed concertos by Hartmann and Schoeck.

As a soloist, Antje Weithaas has worked with most of Germany's leading orchestras, including the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Bamberg Symphony and the major German radio orchestras, numerous major international orchestras such as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Philharmonia Orchestra and the BBC Symphony, as well as and the leading orchestras of the Netherlands, Scandinavia, and Asia. She has collaborated with the illustrious conductors Vladimir Ashkenazy, Dmitri Kitayenko, Sir Neville Marriner, Marc Albrecht, Yakov Kreizberg, Sakari Oramo and Carlos Kalmar.

Antje Weithaas begins the 2023/24 season with concerts at Marie-Elisabeth Hecker's and Martin Helmchen's new Fliessen Festival and at the Schubertiade. She continues her musical partnership with harpsichordist Mahan Esfahani in three concerts at the Wigmore Hall and at the Lammermuir Festival. Other highlights include concerts with Ensemble Resonanz, Symphonieorchester Vorarlberg, Philharmonie Zuidnederland, Camerata Bern and Kammerakademie Potsdam. With the Duisburger Philharmoniker under Axel Kober, she will premiere the new version of Manfred Trojahn's Violin Concerto. She will make her debut in the Pierre Boulez Saal in a duo recital with Dénes Várjon. In trio concerts with Marie-Elisabeth Hecker and Martin Helmchen, she will also appear at the Oberstdorfer Musiksommer and the Schwetzingen SWR Festspiele.

Through her infectious zest for communication, Antje Weithaas' reputation for inspiring play-lead concerts with international renowned chamber orchestras is rapidly growing. Having been the Camerata Bern's artistic director for almost ten years, she was responsible for the ensemble's musical profile, leading large works such as Beethoven's symphonies, and recording music by Tchaikovsky, Brahms, Mendelssohn and Beethoven. Her concerts as artiste associé of the Orchestre de Chambre de Paris in the 2021/22 season led to several new projects including their play-conduct academy.

Antje Weithaas produced a reference recording of Beethoven and Berg's violin concertos in 2013 with the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra under Steven Sloane (CAvi-music). The Arcanto Quartet's highly acclaimed recordings were released on the Harmonia Mundi label and include works by Bartók, Brahms, Ravel, Dutilleux, Debussy, Schubert and Mozart. The label cpo released her recordings of Max Bruch's complete works for violin and orchestra with the NDR Radio Philharmonic under Hermann Bäumer to great acclaim. There were rave reviews for Antje Weithaas' project for CAvi, the complete recordings of Johann Sebastian Bach's solo sonatas and partitas and Eugène Ysaÿe's solo sonatas. Two CDs were released in 2019: a recording of the violin concerto by Robert Schumann and the double concerto by Johannes Brahms with the NDR Radiophilharmonie, cellist Maximilian Hornung and conductor Andrew Manze, which recently received the BBC Music Magazine's "Concerto" Award, and a recording of the violin concerto and concert rhapsody by Khachaturian with the Staatsorchester Rheinische Philharmonie and conductor Daniel Raiskin. Spring 2023 saw the release of Vol. I of the planned complete recording of Ludwig van Beethoven's violin sonatas with pianist Dénes Várjon on the CAvi-music label.

Antje Weithaas began playing the violin at the age of four and later studied at the Hochschule für Musik “Hanns Eisler” Berlin with Professor Werner Scholz. She won the Kreisler Competition in Graz in 1987 and the Bach Competition in Leipzig in 1988, as well as the Joseph Joachim International Violin Competition Hanover in 1991. Together with Oliver Wille, she has taken over the artistic leadership of the renowned Joachim competition in 2019. After teaching at the Universität der Künste Berlin, Antje Weithaas became a professor of violin at the Hochschule für Musik “Hanns Eisler” in 2004. She plays on a 2001 Peter Greiner violin.

2023/2024 season

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