Anton Gerzenberg, Piano

Biography

“Suddenly a pianist appeared on the stage stepping back from the music so that the textual score could be discerned in its finest detail. … He revealed an immense musicality that persuaded in every nuance.“

Carsten Dürer, Piano News

Anton Gerzenberg, born in 1996 in Hamburg, is an outstanding artist of the younger piano generation. After winning first prize at the Geza Anda Concours in Zurich in 2021 and being presented as a “Great Talent” at the Wiener Konzerthaus from 2022 to 2024, he established himself with a remarkably versatile repertoire. His virtuosic, subtly nuanced playing captivates both audiences and critics. In 2024 he received the Martha Argerich Steinway Prize.

After causing “a stirring furore” (Recklinghäuser Zeitung) in summer 2026 with his “unleashed joy in playing and glittering technique”, above all at the Klavierfestival Ruhr with works by Beethoven and Brahms, Anton Gerzenberg opened the 2026/27 season with a recital tour of Sweden and a piano evening together with Martha Argerich, Lilya Zilberstein and Daniel Gerzenberg. Further recitals take him to the piano series of the Wiener Konzerthaus, the Internationale Pianisten series of SWR Kultur and the Théâtre du Châtelet, as well as to Asia, where he appears at the Shenzhen Piano Music Festival and the National Taiwan Concert Hall. At the Wiener Konzerthaus he also appears in a chamber music concert with the Kuss Quartet. Anton Gerzenberg can once again be heard as a soloist with renowned orchestras: this season’s orchestral engagements include the MDR-Sinfonieorchester (Grieg), the Warsaw Philharmonic (Hindemith), the Jenaer Philharmonie, the Orchestre national de Cannes (Beethoven) and the Musikkollegium Winterthur (Bach), under conductors such as Aurel Dawidiuk, Holly Hyun Choe and Sergej Bolkhovets.

Anton Gerzenberg has already performed in major venues such as the Tonhalle Zürich, the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, the Franz Liszt Academy Budapest, the Konzerthaus Berlin and the Musikverein Wien, and at festivals including the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, Heidelberger Frühling, Klavierfestival Ruhr, Le Piano Symphonique Luzern, the Sommerliche Musiktage Hitzacker and the Martha Argerich Festivals in Lugano and Hamburg. He has appeared with orchestras including the Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich, the Wiener Symphoniker, the Konzerthausorchester Berlin and the Orchestre de chambre de Paris. Recent collaborations include the Hamburger Symphoniker (Shostakovich and Widmann), the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra (Ammann), the Luzerner Sinfonieorchester (Beethoven), the Wrocław Philharmonic (Poulenc) and the Grazer Philharmoniker (Mendelssohn). His musical partners include Martha Argerich, Ilya Gringolts, Julia Hagen and Dmitry Smirnov, and conductors he has worked with include Paavo Järvi, Stefan Blunier, Jonathan Stockhammer and Nil Venditti.

Following the release of his debut live CD Ravel Reflections at the end of 2025, a recording as virtuosic as it is thoughtfully conceived, he now presents a new album of works by Franz Schubert with violinist Ilya Gringolts, performed on gut strings and fortepiano.

His strong commitment to contemporary music stems from studying with Pierre-Laurent Aimard. Notably, his tour of György Ligeti’s complete Etudes cycle, paired with Debussy and Ravel, drew considerable attention. In 2019 he co-founded the ÉRMA Ensemble, dedicated to contemporary music. He previously studied in Hamburg with Julia Suslin and Julija Botchkovskaia and in Vienna with Jan Jiracek von Arnim. Additional influences came from figures such as Robert Levin, Alfred Brendel and Bella Davidovich.

In his musical DNA lies a unique family tradition: his mother is the internationally renowned pianist Lilya Zilberstein, his father a trumpeter, his brother a pianist and poet. This heritage is reflected in his confident versatility across solo and chamber music, from early music by Sweelinck to advanced contemporary works by composers such as Lachenmann or Boulez. His interpretations are characterized by tonal differentiation, intellectual depth and a willingness to take risks.

Season 2026/27

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