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Jeroen Berwaerts, Trumpet

Biography

Belgian trumpeter Jeroen Berwaerts is a musical powerhouse whose all-encompassing love for music knows no genre boundaries. Highly esteemed worldwide for his exceptional technical skills and sensitive musicality, he explores repertoire spanning all eras, from Baroque to contemporary music and jazz.

As a soloist, Jeroen Berwaerts has performed with leading orchestras including the NHK Symphony Orchestra, Vienna Symphony, Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, NDR Symphony Orchestra, Het Residentie Orkest, Belgian National Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Konzerthausorchester Berlin, Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia, Malmö Symphony Orchestra, and Orchestre Philharmonique de Luxembourg. He has collaborated with conductors such as Alan Gilbert, Daniel Harding, Markus Stenz, Jun Märkl, and Matthias Pintscher. He is a regular guest at internationally renowned festivals including the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, BBC Proms, Takefu International Music Festival in Japan, Domaine Forget International Festival in Canada, Ars Musica in Belgium, Heidelberg Spring, and Rheingau Musik Festival.

In the 2023/24 season, Jeroen Berwaerts begins his tour in Australia with concerts in Adelaide, Melbourne, and Sydney. In October, he will premiere a new work by Vito Žuraj with the Slovenian Philharmonic Orchestra, followed by German and Japanese premieres with Ensemble Resonanz at the Elbphilharmonie and the Aichi Chamber Orchestra, respectively. Throughout the season, he will also perform with Camerata Bern and Alexander Melnikov, as well as at venues such as the Alte Oper Frankfurt, Liszt Academy Budapest, and Seoul Recital Hall.

Jeroen Berwaerts is known for reinvigorating the standard trumpet repertoire by placing it in inventive and unusual contexts. For instance, he combines Handel's Feuerwerksmusik and dances from Rameau's opera Dardanus with chansons by Jacques Brel, often taking on the vocal parts himself. Alongside his vibrant career as a trumpeter, he also completed jazz vocal studies at the Royal Conservatory of Ghent.

His extraordinary commitment to contemporary music is evident in numerous world premieres, particularly Toshio Hosokawa's second trumpet concerto *Im Nebel* and Francesco Filidei's *Carnevale*. Following Håkan Hardenberger, he became the second trumpeter worldwide to incorporate HK Gruber's *Busking* into his repertoire. In 2019, he premiered Tobias Broström's double concerto for two trumpets, *Nigredo: The Dark Night of the Soul*, alongside Håkan Hardenberger.

His latest discography addition is the album *Signals from Heaven*, recorded in 2017 with Salaputia Brass, where he appears as a trumpeter, jazz vocalist, and ensemble leader.

Jeroen Berwaerts studied with the renowned trumpet virtuoso Reinhold Friedrich in Karlsruhe. Since 2008, he has served as Professor of Trumpet at the Hanover University of Music, Drama, and Media. He is also Professor in Residence at the Royal Academy of Music in London and an official Yamaha Artist.

2024/25 season

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