

Christian Ludwig - Curriculum vitae

Christian Ludwig belongs to the generation of interesting young conductors equally at home in both modern and historical repertoire and performance practise.

He served as artistic director of the Cologne Chamber Orchestra from 2008-2011 and recently as principal conductor of the Gwangju Symphony Orchestra in South Korea, raising audience numbers 30% during his two-year tenure.

Under his baton the Cologne Chamber Orchestra appeared at famous concert venues such as the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Paris, the Prinzregententheater, Munich, the Basilica Sant' Ignazio in Rome and the Philharmonie in Cologne.

He had already worked in his rapidly developing career with the Orchestra Metropolitana Lisbon, the Brandenburg State Orchestra Frankfurt/Oder, the Stuttgart Philharmonic Orchestra and the Württemberg Chamber Orchestra and has conducted Rossini's "Barber of Seville", Mozart's "Cosi fan tutte" and, at the National Opera of Korea, Puccini's "Turandot".

The first of two CDs featuring the complete serenades by Robert Fuchs has just been released for Naxos International and has been praised by the critics of some of the leading music magazines in France, the US, England and Germany and won the "Choc de classica" in May 2011. David Hurwitz, of Classics Today, writes "The performances are perfect: flowing, rhythmically clean and snappy, immaculately tuned, and affectionately phrased. It just doesn't get any better, and the sonics are pristine."

Clemens Haustein of FonoForum says of the CD, "The Cologne musicians' rendition, under the direction of Christian Ludwig, is excellent - with magnificently flexible sound and touch.

Both apparently innocent scores are handled with great seriousness and meticulous accuracy." The second CD of the complete serenades by Robert Fuchs is scheduled to be released in spring 2012.

His first commercial recording with the Cologne Chamber Orchestra for the same label - "Italian Christmas" - was released in November 2010.

Christian Ludwig, born into a musical family in Cologne, Germany in May 1978, first studied the violin with Prof. Saschko Gawriloff and Prof. David Takeno in Cologne and London and chamber music with the Alban Berg Quartet.

He performed with orchestras such as the Berliner-Sinfonie-Orchester, the Radio Symphony Orchestra of Saarbrücken, the Radio Symphony Orchestra of Beijing and the Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra of Budapest. He also played at numerous music festivals, including the International Music Festival Davos (Switzerland), the Dresdner Musikfestspiele, and the Rheingau Musikfestival.

Christian Ludwig studied orchestral and choral conducting at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Mannheim with Klaus Arp and graduated from the Royal Academy of Music, London, where he studied with Sir Colin Davis, Colin Metters and George Hurst.

Moreover he was musically influenced at masterclasses with Mario Venzago, Dmitri Kitajenko, Yan Pascal Tortelier and George Hurst.