

## **Lars VOGT** *piano*

Lars Vogt has rapidly established himself as one of the leading pianists of his generation. Born in the German town of Düren in 1970, he first came to public attention when he won second prize at the 1990 Leeds International Piano Competition and has since gone on to give major concerto and recital performances throughout Europe, Asia, Australia and North and South America.

An EMI recording artist, Lars Vogt has made fifteen discs for the label, including the Hindemith Kammermusik No 2 with the Berlin Philharmonic/Claudio Abbado, the Schumann, Grieg and the first two Beethoven Concertos with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra/Sir Simon Rattle, who has described him as "one of the most extraordinary musicians of any age group that I have had the fortune to be associated with". Recent recordings include solo Schubert for CAVI-music and Mozart Concerti with the Salzburg Mozarteum Orchestra for Oehms. In September 2010 he released a solo Liszt and Schumann disc on the Berlin Classics label.

During the 2011/12 season Lars Vogt will make several appearances in North America, performing with orchestras in Toronto, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Seattle and undertaking an extensive tour with Christian Tetzlaff to New York, Philadelphia and other major cities. Concerts with the London Philharmonic Orchestra feature prominently both with Vladimir Jurowski in London and on tour in the UK and Germany with Yannick Nézet-Seguin. Other concerto engagements include the New Japan Philharmonic/Daniel Harding, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France/Myung-Whun Chung, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Rotterdam Philharmonic, National Orchestra of Spain and orchestras in Berlin, Hamburg, Cologne, Milan, Florence and Copenhagen. Recital appearances feature the International Piano Series in London and the Konzerthaus, Vienna.

Lars Vogt opened the 2010/11 season with two appearances at the BBC Proms; a solo recital and the Grieg Concerto with the Czech Philharmonic under Sir John Eliot Gardiner. Other orchestral appearances included the Orchestre de Paris, London Philharmonic, BBC Symphony, Frankfurt Radio, Bayerische Rundfunk, Finnish Radio, Swedish Radio and Boston Symphony. In Summer 2011 he returned to the BBC Proms in duo with Christian Tetzlaff, toured with Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin and performed at the Salzburg, Verbier, Schwarzenberg and Montreux Festivals.

Lars Vogt's special relationship with the Berlin Philharmonic has continued following his appointment as their first ever "Pianist in Residence" in 2003/4. Other highlights over the past three seasons have included a residency at the Mozartwoche in Salzburg with the Vienna Philharmonic/Christoph Eschenbach and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra/Daniel Harding; as well as appearances with the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, NHK Symphony, London Symphony, Royal Concertgebouw, Chamber Orchestra of Europe, Bayerische Staatsorchester, Dresden Staatskapelle and Santa Cecilia in Rome.

Lars Vogt enjoys a high profile as a recitalist and chamber musician and recent appearances include London, Paris, Munich, Madrid, Rome and New York. In June 1998 he founded his own festival in Heimbach, Germany. Known as "Spannungen", its huge success has been marked by the release of ten live recordings on EMI. He enjoys regular partnerships with colleagues such as Christian Tetzlaff and Thomas Quasthoff and collaborates occasionally with actor Klaus-Maria Brandauer and comedian Konrad Beikircher. In 2005 he founded "Rhapsody in School" which has become a high profile education project across Germany.