



## IGOR LEVIT

### Piano

Winner of Gramophone's "Recording of the Year 2016" award, Igor Levit has established himself as "one of the essential artists of his generation" (*The New York Times*). The press attests his performances a "wealth of meaning without artifice" (Washington Post), leaving the listener "speechless with amazement and admiration" (*The Telegraph*).

Summer 2017 will see Igor Levit perform at the Opening Night of the prestigious BBC Proms alongside the BBC Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Edward Gardner and make his debut at the Salzburg Festival before he embarks on a tour of Asia with the Bavarian State Orchestra under Kirill Petrenko in September. The 2017-18 season marks highly-anticipated debuts including performances with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra (Jakub Hrůša), the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra (Sakari Oramo), the Vienna and Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestras (both with Manfred Honeck) and reunites him amongst others on tours with The Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen and the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich (Lionel Bringuier).

Recital performances will see Igor Levit return to the Berlin Philharmonie as well as making debuts at Stockholm's Konserthuset and Barcelona's Palau de la Música. After the immense success of his Beethoven sonata cycle at London's Wigmore Hall in 2016-17, he will take the cycle to Munich's Prinzregententheater and continue the cycle started in the previous season at the Palais des Beaux Arts in Brussels.

Highlights of past seasons included orchestral debuts with the Bavarian State Orchestra (Kirill Petrenko), Berliner Philharmoniker (Riccardo Chailly), Staatskapelle Dresden (Christian Thielemann), Cleveland Orchestra (Franz Welser-Möst) and London Symphony Orchestra (Fabio Luisi). Recital appearances of 2016-17 saw "hypnotic" (*The New York Times*) and "transfixing" (*The Boston Globe*) debuts at Carnegie Hall, Chicago's Symphony Center, Boston's Celebrity Series, at Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, with Lisbon's Gulbenkian Foundation, at Hamburg's Elbphilharmonie and the Lucerne Piano Festival.

An exclusive recording artist for Sony Classical, Igor Levit's debut disc of the five last Beethoven Sonatas won the BBC Music Magazine Newcomer of the Year 2014 Award, the Royal Philharmonic Society's Young Artist Award 2014 and the ECHO Klassik 2014 for Solo Recording of the Year (19th Century Music/Piano). In October 2015, Sony Classical released Igor Levit's third solo album in cooperation with the Festival Heidelberger Frühling featuring Bach's *Goldberg Variations*, Beethoven's *Diabelli Variations* and Rzewski's *The People United Will Never Be Defeated* which has been awarded the "Recording of the Year" and "Instrumental Award" at the 2016 Gramophone Classical Music Awards.

Born in Nizhni Nowgorod in 1987, Igor Levit at age eight moved with his family to Germany. He completed his piano studies at Hannover Academy of Music, Theatre and Media in 2009 with the highest academic and performance scores in the history of the institute. Igor Levit has studied under the tutelage of Karl-Heinz Kämmerling, Matti Raekallio, Bernd Goetze, Lajos Rovatkay and Hans Leygraf. As the youngest participant in 2005 Arthur Rubinstein Competition in Tel Aviv, Igor Levit won the Silver Prize, as well as the Prize for Best Performer of Chamber Music, the Audience Favorite Prize and the Prize for Best Performer of Contemporary Music.

In Berlin, where he makes his home, Igor Levit is playing on a Steinway D Grand Piano kindly given to him by the Trustees of Independent Opera at Sadler's Wells.

**Igor Levit is an exclusive recording artist of Sony Classical**

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*[Please disregard any pre-existing biographical information. Thank you.]*

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