

Sir András Schiff Performance Programme for Young Pianists Kronberg Academy introduces new course of study

Kronberg Academy has expanded its range of courses by introducing the Sir András Schiff Performance Programme for Young Pianists. A two-year course focusing on chamber music, the programme is aimed at outstanding young pianists aged up to 27 years. It will be launched in autumn 2018 and will initially offer two study places. The deadline for applications is 1 April 2018.

The new study programme was initiated by Sir András Schiff, who will direct it. The world-famous pianist and conductor has been closely associated with Kronberg Academy for many years as an artist, lecturer and member of the Artistic Council.

Kirill Gerstein, Professor Ferenc Rados, Dénes Várjon and Professor Rita Wagner join Sir András Schiff as the lecturers on the new programme. Young pianists will primarily explore duets and works for chamber ensembles together with students of violin, viola and cello. Like all students at Kronberg Academy, the pianists will also be able to take lessons in theoretical subjects and in German.

Raimund Trenkler, Founder and President of Kronberg Academy, sees the piano as “a vital element in chamber music. This new study programme is therefore the final component rounding off the curriculum at Kronberg Academy in its 25th year.” Friedemann Eichhorn, Director of the Kronberg Academy Study Programmes, highlights the fact that “Kronberg gives string players and pianists an opportunity to explore chamber music together at the very highest level while they are still students and to form lasting musical partnerships. We are very much looking forward to welcoming the first piano students to Kronberg in October 2018.”

The study programmes offered by Kronberg Academy are considered the leading courses of their type for young soloists worldwide. For the 25 or so students enrolled at the Academy, these programmes provide tailor-made training, also in collaboration with Frankfurt University of Music and Performing Arts. Violin is taught at Kronberg Academy by Ana Chumachenco, Mihaela Martin, Christian Tetzlaff and Antje Weithaas, viola by Nobuko Imai and Tabea Zimmerman, and cello by Frans Helmerson and Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt. As members of the Artistic Council, Marta Casals Istomin, Christoph Eschenbach, Gidon Kremer and Sir András Schiff are closely involved in the students' development, which includes giving public performances with them.

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Press photo

Sir András Schiff, director of the study programme
“Sir András Schiff Performance Programme for Young
Pianists”

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About Kronberg Academy

Kronberg Academy is a cultural institution unique within Europe that trains and sponsors highly gifted young musicians who play the violin, viola and cello. Renowned musicians such as Ana Chumachenco, Christian Tetzlaff, Tabea Zimmermann and Frans Helmerson are among the Academy's professors. There are some 25 places on the Bachelor's and Master's programmes at the Academy, with the degrees awarded by Frankfurt University of Music and Performing Arts. The Professional Studies and Precollege study programmes enhance the range of courses on offer, and from 2018 onwards these will be further augmented by a study programme for pianists focusing on chamber music. Founded in 1993, the Academy is predominantly financed by private donations. Its Founder and President is Raimund Trenkler and Prof. Dr Friedemann Eichhorn is its Artistic Director. The members of the Artistic Council are Marta Casals Istomin, Yuri Bashmet, Christoph Eschenbach, Gidon Kremer, Sir András Schiff and Mstislav Rostropovich († 2007). In addition to running its study programmes, Kronberg Academy organises several concert projects and many other performances, as well as the internationally acclaimed Kronberg Academy Festival, which takes place every two years.